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(THE) **ELECTRICAL WORKER** OFFICIAL JOURNAL INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

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Editorial.

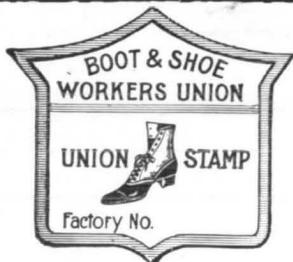
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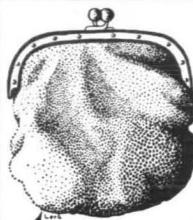
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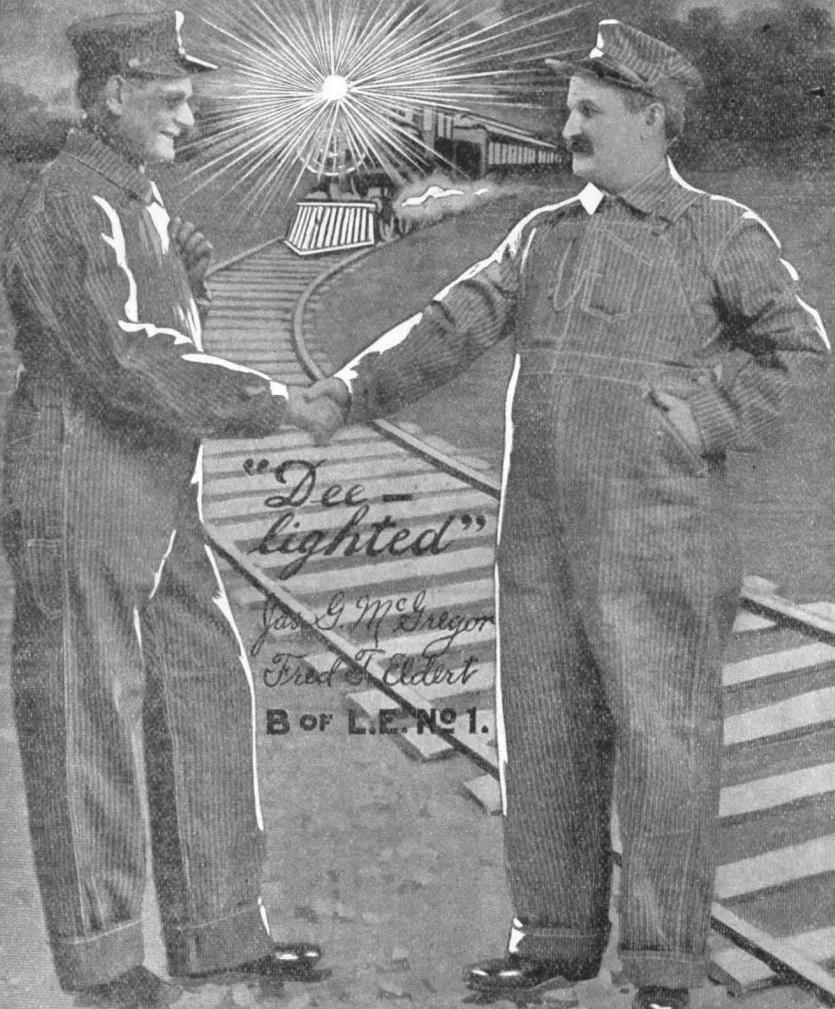


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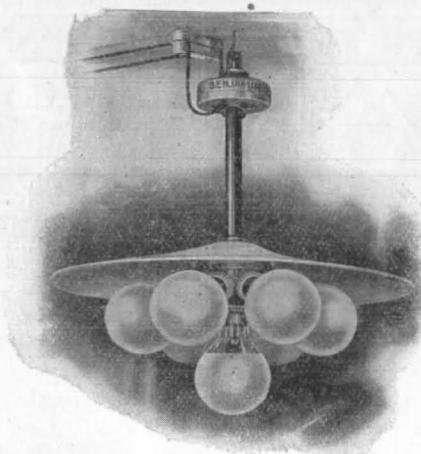
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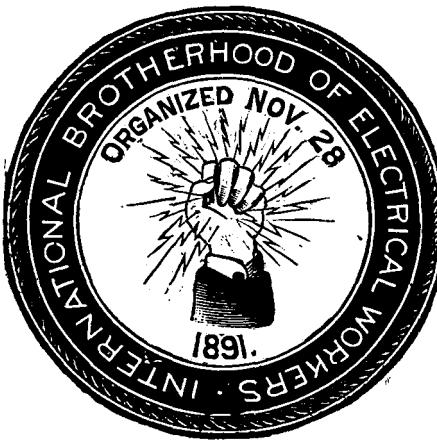
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THE
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of the
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LABOR ORGANIZATIONS ARE RIGHT.

AGREAT deal is being written on this subject that aims to place the labor organizations in a wrong position. The purpose is to bring discredit upon the movement and discourage its work. The disadvantages of labor organizations to the employers of labor who are disposed to grind their workmen are apparent, for, in their combination, they can resent injustice that would have to be borne if each one clung to his "freedom and individuality" that appears to be so highly prized on the part of the employers, as they relate to the employees, but, at the same time, this same "freedom and individuality" are sacrificed by every employer of labor who can manage to squeeze himself into any sort of a combination to protect his interests. This question, says the Trainmen's Journal, is one that, unless handled with perfect fairness by both capital and labor, will always be one judged from the personal view point with the decision that "the other side is wrong."

Freedom of action is, by the employer, set up against whatever advantages may be derived from combination wherein the will of a constituted majority is supposed to control. Freedom of action is a mythical quantity when applied to the question of work and wages just as it is a mythical quantity when applied to the right to buy what one pleases with his own money. If he has money enough he can. If he is short, he cannot. It all depends on the power of the other fellow to make terms. Freedom is always on the side of power and opportunity, and in this connection means nothing at all. The word is out of place in the sense in which it is used, and it would be better if the old way of stating the case were used, to this effect: "A man has the right to do a certain thing, if he is allowed to do it."

The employer leads off with the argument that a man has a perfect right to sell his labor for any price he elects. To a certain extent this is true, but when the man sells it at a price that jeopardizes the mental, physical and moral welfare of the remainder of the community his right ceases, for he has no business to become a public menace. This abuse of right is exactly what "freedom of the right to contract" means when it is used

in the same that so many employers of cheap labor use it.

The right to sell any product is on the same basis exactly. If the product is entirely in the hands of any certain set of men they can fix a price and get it. The purchaser has a perfect right to make a contract, but knows he must make it on the other fellow's terms. The right of the purchaser is a pleasant fiction and holds only so far as it applies to his not having to make the purchase. If he does purchase, his side of the contract is merely an acquiescence to the proposition of the seller.

This right to fix prices is firmly established by every corporation that holds control by itself, combination or gentlemen's agreement, of the product to be sold.

Standard Oil, the steel trust, beef trust, anthracite coal trust, or, in fact, any combination that stands as an exponent of the right of contract, denies that same right to every purchaser. It is true that the buyer can leave the product alone and suffer the inconveniences for so doing, but this mere acknowledgement fixes the falsity of the term "freedom of contract in business."

The statement of the representative of the Louisville and Nashville Railway Company to the effect that the company had a right to fix whatever passenger rate it pleased, is typical of the corporation idea of the freedom of contract. His explanation of that right and its possible impositions on the public was that the public did not have to pay the rate; "it could walk." This is the kind of a "public-be-damned" proposition that is pretty well fixed in the minds of the average combination, although it stands for the "freedom of the workingman" and tells him it is silly for him to tie up with a combination of his kind and thus lose his independence and his right to freedom of action. That there are plenty of slow-thinking, evil-minded and favor-seeking workers who listen is to be regretted, but in this lot of short-sighted ones the combinations of employers find their mainstay against the progress that labor organizations seeks to bring about.

"A man has a right" should always be accompanied with all of the qualifying

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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terms that belong to it before it is taken seriously, for, the fact is that a man has no right unless he is able to enforce his ideas of right. If corporations can get together and control raw materials and finished products both in their buying and selling they consider they have shown rare business judgment and are perfectly willing to sacrifice their "freedom and individuality" that they hold so dear for their workmen. But, when their employes adopt the same methods for their own protection the employer gets out from among his combination associates long enough to point out the error of like association for his workmen. There ought to be something in the force of example for the workmen, but very often there is not.

Labor organizations are accused of being drastic, illegal and visionary in their methods. Business associations are more so, and for their methods the less said the better. It is useless to ask the public to separate business and graft, for the disclosures starting with the insurance companies and winding in their ill-smelling way through the beef scandals, trust scandals, and down through the railway exposures, are sufficient to disgust every one with the term "business man." Grafter is an easy substitute. Every man in the business world is now supposed to be out with either a sand bag or his "big mit."

Labor organizations have made mistakes and they will make more of them before they are done. To expect otherwise would be expecting too much in the way of perfection from men who, if they look for example anywhere will look for it from their employers. But even that acknowledgement need not be construed to mean that labor organization is wrong, for it is not.

The difference in the purpose of the combination of capital and the combination of the employes is in the difference in the distribution of benefits derived. Capital divides its gains among a very few, the number being smaller each year, while labor divides its advantages among the very many, its circle of beneficence spreading a little wider each year. The one combination is for the benefit of the few, the other for the benefit of the many.

Labor organization cannot confine its advantages to its own members. Perhaps it would be much better if it could, for if this were the case the most bitter opponents outside of the organizations would be the strongest members within them. It is common to hear non-union working-men damn the union, but you never hear one of them damn the union pay-day, the union short workday or other union advantages. They accept all of them and fall back on their "independence" of union control to ease a guilty conscience.

They know, and so do we all know, that whatever the union gets for its members will also be given to all others employed in the same line of work.

It sounds strange and out of place to some employers to listen to the demands of their employes. They cannot understand that employes have any rights aside from those included in their acceptance of terms offered by the employer. But for all of that the purpose of the labor organization cannot be set aside because of the unfairness that takes one position as correct for themselves and declares that same position is wrong for every one else.

Labor has a right to look for something better; it has a right to organize to get it. Both are natural rights, in perfect accord with the higher principles that ought to control humanity, for the employe is neither a machine nor a beast of burden.

Let us all get down to the bottom of the question of right and understand what it means and what is necessary to enforce it. Let the example of the combinations of capital formed for the purpose of taking away from the majority of the people be the example of the labor organization for the purpose of giving to the many without robbing the few, which is not the business man's way of distributing advantages. We have a right to ask for a sensible working day that will not force a man to go home half dead because of the length of it; we have a right to demand good wages for work performed for from what we receive we must live and bring up our families, and it is our right to bring them up as they should be brought up, to healthy, hopeful manhood and womanhood that will make the nation respected because of the character of all of its people rather than to have it known simply because of the wealth of a few of them.

What has been done for the working people has been done through their own efforts. If the question of better men were left to the employer alone the working people would not be of a very high standard, but would be of the class that is to be seen coming through the immigration gates of every port of entry, illiterate, diseased, criminal and immoral, kept in subjection by fear of the severity of the law and starvation wages that show low wages and pauper living will do for any people.

The schoolhouse, the shorter workday, sanitary regulations, age-limit for child employment, safety appliances on machinery and the right to live as a man ought to live, were not the work of the employers' associations—they represent the patient effort of combined labor working in the right direction.—Organized Labor.

THE STORY OF A LABOR LEADER.

BY REV. CHARLES STELZLE.

RAISED in the Middle West, where he learned the painter's trade, the man of whom I speak developed into a leader among his craftsmen because of his superior intelligence. He perfected the organization of his union until it became a model among the labor unions of the city, and then he began to improve the condition of other working men in town, forming a central labor union, of which he naturally became the president. Seeing the need of a labor-organ, he put into it about \$1,500 which he had accumulated as a mechanic during fifteen years of hard labor, and thus it happened that when I met him, he was the editor of the local labor paper, president of the local trades assembly, a vice president of the State Federation of Labor, and an organizer for his national federation.

In many respects his story was a typical one. And because it was typical it told of experiences which are not always familiar to the man who knows all about labor leaders because he has "read about them in the newspapers and in some magazines."

The physician had ordered him to take a rest. He looked as if he needed one. With sunken cheeks and hollow eyes he sat before me in the little room in my hotel, telling with tremendous earnestness something of the things he had passed through.

"My wife said to me last night, 'Papa, you worry too much about these labor matter.' But I replied: 'I can't help it. I can't stand by and see the boys downed.'"

Somehow to most men the average labor leader is a man who is more familiar with the saloon than the home. And yet the labor leader is very much like other men, with the same heartaches and—the same temptations.

"The boys nominated me for mayor two years ago," he continued. "There were five candidates in the field. One of the candidates offered me five hundred dollars to get out of the race. The candidate of the leading party in town came to me one day accompanied by three of his workers, with the proposition that they would nominate me as a candidate to serve on the board of public service, and that the machine would elect me, provided that I declined to run for mayor."

"The mayor is simply a figurehead, anyway," they told me. "If you were to serve on the board of public service, you could give the laboring men something definite, because you will be in a position to help disburse the finances of the city."

"Is that so?" I answered. "Why don't you give us the figurehead job, then, and keep the board of public service yourself?" O, they are a foxy lot!"

Producing a receipt for goods sold to the city, he said:

"In our city no office-holder is permitted, according to law, to sell anything to the municipality. There is the name of one of the leading officials in town, indicating that he was paid for material which came out of his store.

"Talk about the enforcement of law, we working men are not afraid of the enforcement of the law. We'd like to see it enforced. If that should happen, I tell you there'd be some loud squealing by some of the most respectable citizens of this city.

"Several of the unions over at the mill entered into a contract with the bosses which was to be in operation for two years. The contract has still six months to run. About a week ago the men were told that they would have to accept a reduction of eighteen per cent, or the mills would be shut down. If the men had violated the contract, every newspaper in the country would have printed it. As it was, the matter was not even mentioned.

"Tomorrow night we are to have an election at the primaries. The men who are selected will have the disposal of a big contract for school books. The — Book Company has placed money enough in town to elect all of their men. I was approached last night in behalf of the men who are owned by the company, but I turned down their proposition so hard that they did not know themselves.

"They tell about the lawlessness of the working men in this part of the country. There is lawlessness, of course; I don't deny that. But I have had a standing offer of fifteen dollars reward for the conviction of any lawbreaker around here who bears an American name. I still hold my money. The convicted men are all foreigners. The people expected men like John Mitchell to control a crowd that even the militia cannot handle. There isn't a labor leader in the country who can manage these foreigners. Most of them are a pretty rocky lot, anyway. They come over here and live like brutes, on small wages, setting the standard for the American working man. They don't suffer any particular hardships, because they are accustomed to such things. Just as soon as they earn five hundred dollars they could go back home and live like kings. They pay a dollar a week for lodging, and sleep five in a room. When they work double shift, the night men come in and occupy the beds just vacated by the day men, so that the beds are

always in use. I know of a small house near the railroad track—and it is a type of a good many in town—into which they have crowded twenty-three men, every one a foreigner."

Then followed a story of the grossest immorality indulged in by the laborers in these boarding houses as a part of the "privileges" which come to them in payment of even so small a sum as one dollar a week. The horror of it all was positively shocking. It did not seem possible that these things could be true in his beautiful little American city.

"Some of these fellows live in box cars owned by the railroad company. They are placing twelve men in each car, and pay them forty-eight cents a day less than they are paying other laborers. Then they boast of their philanthropy because they are not charging the men anything for the use of the cars! As a matter of fact, they are receiving nearly six dollars a day for the use of their old box cars, which can be of no further service to them."

I was shown some photographs of half a dozen of the cars in question, bearing out the story as it was told by the labor editor. The sanitary conditions had become so vile that the city authorities were compelled to clear out the entire enterprise.

The account of the failure of a cotton speculator had appeared in a morning paper. Turning to the picture of the operator, the labor man went on:

"That's the sort of thing that makes a fellow hot. A chap like this will boost cotton so high that factories all over the country are compelled to shut down, throwing thousands of people out of work. It's the poor people who have to pay the taxes and the high prices every time. Look at the shipbuilding trust! That matter and others like it have been talked about so much in the newspapers that the average working man has come to believe that all business is a trick, of which he is the victim. Somebody must pay the dividends for these inflated enterprises, and who pays them if the working-man doesn't? Anyway, he isn't getting all that is coming to him, and he knows it. It's no wonder that there are so many Socialists and Anarchists."

"O, no, I am not a Socialist," in answer to my question. "The Socialists are a sorry lot in this town. One of them—my former partner in the paper—did me out of \$1,300. No, they're no good; some of their principles may be all right, but I have never yet met a Socialist who begins to measure up to them."

"What do I think about unions being incorporated? Let me tell you what happened in one of the big shops in town. You probably know something about the Employers' — — — Association, which

promises to keep the bosses posted on all the affairs of the union. One of their representatives approached the secretary of a union which I organized recently, and offered him fifty dollars a month in addition to his regular wages to become a spy for the concern. But he didn't know his man. The secretary knocked the fellow down, although he probably succeeded in buying somebody else. It is the policy of their agents in the shop to oppose the organization of the labor union; but, failing in this, they are instructed to become very enthusiastic in the affairs of the union, trying to have themselves elected to office, so that they may serve on the executive committee. It would be an easy matter to have these spies lead some of the men into doing something which is contrary to the law, with the result that the entire union would be held responsible for the outrage, and, as happened in the Taff Vale case, in England, the treasury of the union would be depleted as the result of a suit for damages. If the unions should become incorporated, it would be very easy for this corporation to smash practically every labor organization in the country. On its face, the proposition is a fair one. It would be all right if everybody else were all right. But it would be a death blow to trade unionism under present conditions.

"When an outrage is committed during a strike, for instance, it is usually the work of an individual—sometimes in the union, but generally outside of it—who is acting on his own responsibility. The labor unions of this country as a whole are not lawless, and they do not deliberately plan the slugging and the destruction of property which is usually attributed to them. Some union men rejoice when the strikebreaker is laid out or when the property of an 'unfair' boss is destroyed; but that is because it is human nature to enjoy seeing your opponent get the worst of the situation. I have known some bosses who have become jubilant when the unions 'got it in the neck.' I tell you, none of us are just what we ought to be, and the devil has a pretty good grip on most of us."

"It is no snap to be in the labor movement. A man gets it from both sides. I have found in running a labor paper that nearly every other man has a 'hammer'—he is a 'knocker.' Just as soon as some other fellow gets half an inch higher than he is, he has it in for him and for the editor, and then there is trouble. Working men are the most ungrateful lot of fellows that you ever worked for. They have never supported my paper, and I have always stood by them. It has been supported by the 'single ads' of the business men. But I'm going to sell the paper, and go back to my trade, where I can at least make a living."

JESUS CHRIST—UNION CARPENTER.

BY THE REV. CHARLES STELZLE.

I was asked in a public meeting recently if I thought that Jesus would become a member of the Carpenters' Union were he on earth today. Just what Christ would do in regard to organized labor in the twentieth century, no man dare prophecy. Any other man's opinion on this subject is as good as mine. But I do believe that Jesus was a member of the Carpenters' Guild of his day, which was the nearest approach to the forms of organized labor in this generation. It is also quite likely that were he to come again as a carpenter, with all that that implies—a workingman's trials as well as a workingman's sympathies—he would identify himself with that organization which is doing most to better the conditions of all workingmen. And if he were to manifest the same spirit toward those who oppressed the poor and the helpless that he did when he was on earth in bodily form, he would probably become known as a "labor agitator."

Those who assert that Jesus would in no case identify himself with any organization that practiced slugging or that was unfair in any particular — of which things these persons insist organized labor is guilty—forget, or do not know, that he became a member of the very organization of his day, which was guilty of everything that is today charged against organized labor. When he addressed the leaders of the scribes and Pharisees, he not only reminded them that their fathers and mothers had scourged and persecuted the prophets, that they had killed and crucified those who had been sent to them, but that they themselves were guilty of the most damnable sins—hypocrisy, graft, persecution. And these very leaders afterward crucified him for his persistent declaration that he was the Son of God, and that he had been sent to save the people. Jesus

Christ was a member of that ancient organization, because—in spite of the fact that it was largely controlled by men of this type—it had within it the elements of true piety and faithfulness toward God and toward men. It must, in all fairness be said today with reference to organized labor, that it, too, contains the elements which make for a higher type of manhood and womanhood, even though there are within its ranks some men who dishonor the cause. These must soon be eliminated, so that the movement which represents the best interests of the working people, may no longer be handicapped by unfaithful leaders.

To this end, why would it not be well to invite into membership, the man who may truly be claimed as "Labor's Champion"—Jesus Christ? Let organized labor take its stand behind him. Permit him to speak for you. You need never again quote the political economist. Quote Christ. Never has any man more bitterly denounced the oppressor. Invite him to sit upon your platform. Take him into your councils. If you will, you are sure to win, for Christ is sure to win. I have a very strong conviction that if the workingmen of the world were to claim Christ as their exponent, their leader, with all that goes with this claim, no power on earth could withstand their onward march. Does this seem visionary? But hasn't the Church done this very thing? The true Christ rests absolutely and specifically upon the person of Jesus Christ. All of its progress is due to this fact. Its sacrifice as well as its victories were founded upon its faith in Christ. He is claimed today by the Church as a living, personal power. Labor, too, may have him—in the broadest, fullest sense. And when it again lays claim upon Christ, its victory is assured.

THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

My Dear Sir — For three years and more the trade unions have been coming in on the fight against consumption and now this year in New York City we find them joining forces with us stronger than ever and in a way which is bound to have considerable effect on this great problem of the *prevention* of this terrible but preventable disease. In place of ignorance and indifference, at the present rate we shall soon have a public which knows that consumption can be prevented, that it can be cured and that it

is foolish and worse to put off an honest and real attempt to get well; that "sure cures" for consumption are merely methods of obtaining money under false pretenses, that consumption is caused by a germ, and that it is courting death to allow a consumptive who will not take care of his germ-laden sputum to spit on the floor of one's shop or home. These things we are getting before the unions of this city by means of short talks, many of them illustrated with stereopticon views. Take, for instance, our record in this re-

spect for the first week in April; we were given the privilege of the floor at the following unions: German Bricklayers Union No. 11; Carpenters and Joiners No. 715; United Hebrew Trades; Marble Cutters and Setters; United Upholsterers Union No. 44; Cloak and Skirt Makers Union; Tool and Die Workers No. 460; Carpenters and Joiners No. 1548; Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers No. 442; Painters, Decorators and Paperhanglers No. 490; Brotherhood of Bookbinders No. 9; International Association of Machinists No. 402; New York City Lodge No. 404, I. A. M.; United Derrickmen, Riggers and Pointers Association No. 4; Rockman and Excavators Unions No. 10630 and No. 10631; Typographical Union No. 6; United Teamsters of America No. 462.

This means that the sacrifice of over 10,000 lives to this preventable disease which we see going on in New York City every year is to be stopped, that the trade unions of this city are going to hold up the hands of the public authorities in their attempt to stamp out consumption and that there will be in the future a

more vigorous and determined demand for thorough-going factory, tenement house and Board of Health regulations.

But we cannot be satisfied with what is being done. After all and in spite of the numbers who have given us a hearing far more unions are on the other side and have still not responded to our request for permission to address them. We want to have extended to us the privilege of the floor by every single union in this city. We will furnish a speaker in any language desired and where our lantern is not in use at other lectures we will illustrate our talks with stereoptican views, all entirely at our own expense. It is to the unions' own interest to learn of this preventable disease that at present is causing them far more loss in members' lives and union funds than any other cause. A letter to the undersigned giving date and hour at which our committee may appear will receive prompt attention.

Yours very truly,
PAUL KENNADAY, Secretary,
Com. on the Prevention of Tuberculosis,
105 East 22d st., N. Y. City.

THE FEATHERSTONE MYSTERY.

PETER W. COLLINS.

Gerald Featherstone smiled with an air of utmost unconcern for to him all the world was at peace. At last he was successful. His career was nearing an iridescent climax. For had not Dorothy Habets that very day succumbed to his irreproachable gabfest and consented to be Mrs. Gerald Featherstone. Had he not made the catch of this and two seasons beyond and had not this epoch in his very life's history been the acknowledgement of destiny.

* * *

The Habet's family objected most strenuously to the engagement of Dorothy and Gerald Featherstone for dame rumor had it that Featherstone's ancestry had no Coat of Arms or family manor and it would indeed be flying in the face of tradition to have a Habet's marry beneath her station.

But opposition was of no avail for Dorothy Habets was a strong willed creature, one who had been the apple of her father's eye and who had occasionally used that optic as her own. It was therefore out of the question to dissuade Dorothy from marrying Gerald Featherstone.

* * *

To be a detective requires no little genius for the calling not only tests character in a man but an insight into human nature is absolutely essential. But to be a female detective and a successful one

as was Dora Tinnons was indeed a marvelous demonstration of a woman's power and one bound to reflect credit on her sex.

Dora Tinnons was not an amateur detective but a real live professional and had a reputation long before her arrival at Point Shirley the famous watering place and the home of the Habets family. She had at the earnest solicitation of Annabelle Ruggles, Secretary of the Byron Literary Circle consented to assist Percy Habets and the Habets family in unravelling the mysteries of Gerald Featherstone's life for the purpose as aforesaid of relegating said Featherstone to the Timbers.

* * *

Percy Habets was a fellow of no mean order, a royal natured, cheerful chap who cared more for the fellowship of the gentle sex, than for the company of men. His education had not been neglected for many years and his aptitude in the classics created a furore at the Boarding School. It had been asserted without contradiction that Percy was destined to be more than a society pet and would indeed make a name for himself in the future. When at school he never indulged in football, baseball or other rough sports but rather immured himself in the deep oblivion of his boudoir and composed real smart spics, the rendition of which caused great ecstacy among the members

of the Byron Literary Circle, a female aggregation.

* * *

The old colonial mansion on the hill with the majestic tower from which a view for miles around could be had was the home of the Habets family for more than a century and antedating the Revolution. It was originally built by Richard Habets the great grandfather of Dorothy and Percy Habets and had always remained in the possession of the Habets family. When Roger Habets, the father of Dorothy was in his twenty-first year he married Lucy Frottins, daughter of Edgar Frottins one of Point Shirley's oldest settlers who could boast of as proud a family tree as any in the old Bay State.

The union had resulted in two children, Dorothy, the pride of Roger Habets' life and Percy, his mother's pet.

Roger Habets had died when Dorothy was but twelve years old and two years after his death Lucy Habets, his widow, married Willis Babington, the author of a treatise on prunes. Dorothy could not accustom herself to her step-father's peculiar theories and consequently friction arose in the household.

* * *

Dora Tinnons was positive she was right and yet her woman's instinct told her to be cautious for a false step now might endanger her chance of ever placing the blame upon Gerald Featherstone and yet her surprise was so intense she could hardly refrain from crying out. But her eyes could not deceive her. It

was he or else his ghost and the slim waiting figure of the female detective shook with a nervousness bordering on hysteria. But still she watched, watched with an eager fascinated gaze.

* * *

By the diffused glow from the pocket flash light the confession was written and as Gerald Featherstone put his signature to the paper she had made him pen, something more than a thrill of victory shot through her veins for she recognized in that signature none other than the Nuckles, society highwayman and expert forger.

The back door in the Habets mansion quietly opened and as Dora Tinnons peered into the gloom the sneaking, skulking figure of a man was passing beyond her sight and disappeared into the night.

She had tracked him to the Habets mansion and had caught him red handed in the act of robbing the family safe (containing the Habets heirlooms) in the cosy sumptuous library on the second floor.

* * *

Dorothy Habets has again taken her place among the younger set of Point Shirley and the announcement of her engagement to Larie Anson, diplomatic envoy of the English Government has occasioned joy to her many friends. To many the disappearance of Gerald Featherstone remains a mystery till this day, but there is one who, if she would, could tell the real facts in that most interesting case.

TO THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—GREETING:

To the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.—Greeting:

In justice to the membership at large of the International Brotherhood we deem it right and necessary to acquaint you with the following facts:

Immediately following the fire in San Francisco an influx of wiremen was started on the coast, and as San Francisco was not in a position to make use of them, the tide was turned to Los Angeles, and at present there are four men for every job, and the unorganized condition of the town has given the contractors a chance to force the newcomers to work for less than the scale, maintaining that there was neither union nor scale, and compelling the old timers to accept the same conditions which they offered to newcomers.

At present there is very little work in the town, the reports of the California Promotion Society, Railroads, Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association and Citizens' Alliance notwithstanding. Although they are spreading such information broadcast over the entire United States, but since the earthquake building operations have been practically suspended.

In view of these facts we believe the Locals should all be notified to not allow good brothers to come here from distant points expecting to find plenty of work and good conditions.

The scale here was \$3.50 and 8 hours, but we are sorry to say \$2.50 and less is the average paid at present and few men get in over half time; besides this over 50 per cent of the Local are without work for weeks at a time.

The Building Trades Council is inoperative and unionism is unpopular, all jobs being open and everything on the individual bargains scheme.

California climate is fine but you cannot live on that alone forever.

Kindly read this letter at least three meetings in order that all may know of these facts.

Please refer this to your labor paper with the request that they publish the same, as the conditions are advertised differently by the Citizens' Alliance.

Yours fraternally,
E. POWELSON, President.
M. S. CULVER, Rec. Sec.

EDITORIAL.

PETER W. COLLINS.

STATE RIGHTS. We do know that history repeats itself. But how often? That's the question; and particularly an interesting one at this time, for the very good reason that the policy of the future in the affairs of government National and State will be determined to a great extent by the proper solving of the puzzle and the correct answer to the question: "Will history repeat itself? The puzzle seems to be as to just where the line of demarcation between the powers of the Federal Government and the reserved rights of the Sovereign States—guaranteed to them under Art. X. of the Constitution—is drawn.

The question of State Rights has always had its advocates and its opponents. It has been a battle-ground for the partisans, the orators, the statesmen, the press and the people, from the beginning of our Constitutional history. It was the question that made the Constitutional Convention of 1787 possible; as the resolutions introduced in the Virginia Legislature in 1785 and 1786 calling for a meeting of representatives from all the States to consider the advisability of devising a uniform system for commercial intercourse necessary to their common interest, and which under the Articles of Confederation adopted in 1777 intended to be perpetual, was impossible.

The Convention which met for the consideration of this question on that May day in 1787 deemed it wise to formulate a Constitution that would meet all requirements. As to the personnel of that great body of patriots who transmitted to posterity the greatest document from the hand of man since the beginning of the Christian era, it is unnecessary to comment, suffice to say that their character and their integrity of purpose was unquestioned. Of their work W. E. Gladstone said:

"The American Constitution is so far as I can see, the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of men. It has had a century of trial under the pressure of exigencies caused by an expansion unexampled in point of rapidity and range, and its exemption from formal change, though not entire, has certainly approved the sagacity of the constructors and the stubborn strength of the fabric."

They differed however as to just what kind of government would best subserve the interests of all the people. Hamilton desired a form of government after the English system. Madison wanted a real republican form of government. They had their partisans and the fight in convention was a long one and ended in submitting to the States for their approval, the Constitution as agreed on. The people of the States gave the subject their consideration and in such a manner that the Constitution itself was on the verge of rejection, mainly from the belief among the people that they would be deprived of the State sovereignty. However, the Constitution was ratified by all the States in 1788, with the exception of North Carolina and Rhode Island (and these States ratified it in 1790). On March 4, 1789, the Constitution went into effect. Congress began business April 1st and Washington was inaugurated April 30, 1789. There had been much

diversity of opinion on the part of the delegates at the Convention on the various questions at issue, Roger Sherman said:

"That the people should have as little to do as may be with the government."

Pinckney advocated the appointment of members of Congress by the Legislature, Hamilton's idea was a republic of aristocracy while that of Jefferson was a democratic republic of the people. Jefferson's greatest fear was the Judiciary as will be seen from the following letter written to Archibald Thweat:

"I am sensible of the inroads daily making by the Federal into the Jurisdiction of its co-ordinate associates, the State Governments. The Legislative and Executive governments may sometimes err, but elections and dependence will bring them to rights. The Judiciary branch is the instrument, which working like gravity, without intermission is to press us at last into one consolidated mass. If Congress fails to shield the States from danger so palpable and so imminent, the States must shield themselves and meet the invader foot to foot."

The problem of States rights was evidently a touchy one and the fear on the part of the people led them to give the whole question their best attention. While undoubtedly it is a fact that the rights of the States as reserved to them by Art. X

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

were intended to be respected; it is conceded that the various decisions of the Supreme Court, through usurpations of jurisdiction, has cast a very serious doubt upon the whole question.

It was never intended by the framers of the Constitution that the Judiciary should possess the power to negative laws of Congress and its judicial power was understood to be limited to such cases "arising under the Constitution," of a judiciary nature.

Under the Constitution "All Legislative power shall be vested in Congress," and yet the judiciary encroached upon this absolute jurisdiction of Congress.

We quote the following opinion of an eminent New York attorney who seems to think that the legislative powers of Congress were limited:

"In the light of history, can we doubt the wisdom of the founders of the government of the United States when they committed the care of the Constitution and the guardianship of the just exercise of the *limited legislative power* delegated to Congress, exclusively to an Independent Judiciary."

While the founders of the government never delegated such power through the Constitution to the judiciary, there was an attempt made in the convention to give the judiciary a visionary power over acts of Congress. This was defeated by the votes of eight states against and three in favor, and in arguing against the proposition. Mr. Gerry said:

"It was establishing an improper coalition between the Executive and Judiciary departments. It was making statesmen of the judges and setting them up as guardians of the rights of the people. He relied for his part on the representatives of the people as the guardians of their rights and interests."

It is evident from the vote in the Constitutional Convention and the arguments of Gerry, that the Convention had no intention to commit "the care of the constitution and guardianship of the just exercise of the limited legislative power" as stated in the eloquent oratorical pyrotechnics of our New York friend.

We can hardly condemn him however, for being a strong partisan of Marshall (for Marshall was actually the cause of all the original usurpation by the judiciary) as there are many (Lawyers) who hold similar opinions.

There are of course, other lawyers holding opposite views (in fact a

large majority of the Constitutional Convention were lawyers) and the following gives the opinion of an able State Rights advocate:

"Although the popular feeling was against a consolidated government at the time of formation and adoption of the Constitution, yet the Federalists who favored a strong consolidated government, had secured a majority of Congress and retained such majority until the great Civil Revolution of 1860, which displaced them from power in both the Executive and legislative branches of the government; the judicial department alone remaining Federal, every member of which was a Federalist at the time of the decision of *Mabury vs. Madison*. Of the Federalist party, Alex Hamilton was the very foremost man, controlling the administration of Washington and Adams and the legislation of Congress for the first twelve years of our national existence. He secured the passage of the Judicial Act of 1789 which gave more power to the Federal Judiciary than the Constitution gave and also the establishment of a National Bank unauthorized by it. During the administration of John Adams the Alien and Sedition Laws were passed at his suggestion, he virtually ruling such administration by having under his influence the several members of the Cabinet to such an extent that Chas. Francis Adams the grandson of the President in his life of John Adams, informs us that neither of these boys was ever made the subject of executive consultation. Thus, this able man who failed in the Constitutional Convention to secure the strong government, he desired, was gradually building up such a government in defiance of the Constitution.

His funding policy, creating a large debt, the establishment of the National Bank, the conferring upon the Federal Judiciary, by law, powers in excess of those conferred by the Constitution, and the passage of the Alien and Sedition laws, were all calculated to strengthen the power of the Federal government and weaken the power of the States."

And again the following resolution adopted by the Virginia legislature in 1789 which were written by James Madison,—The Father of the Constitution—and transmitted to the legislatures of the States.

"That the Assembly doth explicitly and peremptorily declare that it view the power of the Federal government as resulting from the compact to which the States are parties, as limited by the plain sense and intention of the instrument constituting that compact, as no further valid than they were authorized by the grant enumerated in that compact. That the General Assembly doth also express the deep regret that a spirit has, in sundry instances, been manifested by the Federal government to enlarge its power by forced construction of the Constitutional charter which defines them, and that indications have appeared of a design to enfold certain general phrases (which having been copied from the very limited grant of power in the former Articles of Confederation, were the less liable to be misconstrued) so as to destroy the meaning and effect of the particular enumeration, which necessarily explains and limits the general phrases, and so as to consolidate the States by degrees into one Sovereignty, the obvious tendency and invariable results of which would be, to transform the present republican system of the United States into an absolute, or at best, a mixed monarchy."

Thus we see that the champions of States Rights and those of Centralization have many times crossed swords in the combat of argument, and while we do not presume to decide which side has a preponderance of merit we do express the belief that history will repeat itself and the whole question again become involved in the turmoil of partisan politics. The issue is indeed a great one and the attention of all the people should be given to its proper solution. We are inclined to believe that it will be an open question until such time as the Constitution is amended to definitely restrain the inclinations of the judicial "Sappers and Miners" from appropriating to themselves prerogatives of the legislative branch.

THE RIGHT TO GOVERN. Reason it out for a moment: What is your influence in the affairs of your City, State and Nation? We venture the assertion that your conclusion will be about the same as our own; that the individual and combined influence we exert amounts to very little. And why? Well there are many reasons.

First and foremost is that we don't give the subject the consideration it deserves. We are content to allow the supposedly "wise ones" do the thinking for us, and as a consequence we get the "*double cross*" and numerous encomiums on our splendid system of government. We get the "*double cross*" first, from the Statesman we select—or rather who direct us to select them—and then we get it from *he, they and them* who direct our Statesmen to be good, and do as they are told. Which they do. Surely this is a community of interests with the emphasis on the *Interests*. A visit to any of our training schools for Statesmen, be it a City Hall, State or National Capitol, will convince us of our crude ideas as to the duties of representatives of the people. The insight we get of how things are done leaves us in doubt as to whether we are in the presence of the real elect or at a convention of *Shell Game Operators*. And the simile is not drawn too fine at that, in fact we fear we are doing the "*Shell Men*" an injustice by the comparison.

But seriously the problem is an important one and merits our most serious attention. Magazines are filled with the details and they are startling. But epics from the *Special Correspondent* won't eliminate the evil. There is only one remedy and that is the Initiative and Referendum, by which the people can express their exact desires in an emphatic manner. The first principle of popular government is the right of the people to govern themselves.

Study the issue, work for its accomplishment and make your influence felt.

"TAINTED NEWS." Colliers National Weekly, beginning with the issue of February 28, 1907, have been running a series of excellent articles on "Tainted Views." Our particular interest is excited by the article of May 4, because it confirms in a coincidental manner the correctness of our own position on this very question. In our editorial—December ELECTRICAL WORKER—"A much abused question." We made the following statement relative to the campaign being waged by the opponents of Municipal Ownership through the public press:

"In a large degree the newspapers of the country (some consciously and others unconsciously) act as the disseminators of a species of misrepresentation that is obviously unfair and unjust. In many instances articles appearing in the public press apparently legitimate in tone and credited to representative men of the community where a particular effect is desired are the emanations of a highly paid corps of what we might term *Disinterested* Manufacturers of public opinion. Every corporation has its efficient corps, some have lawyers of large fees and a standing in the community (the standing is essential, for the better the standing the greater the area over which the wool can be pulled.) Others are experts in their particular line, which includes the learned in Astronomy, Cosmology, Electricity, and last but not least, Dollarology. Their objective point is the public mind and in influencing the public mind no stone is left unturned. When the conditions of the patient becomes such that treatment is necessary there is a deluge (of results attained only after careful investigation) that cause consternation to the average public spirited citizen who is only seeking light. Of all the questions thus treated the one which receives greatest attention is Municipal Ownership and the effusions coming from the 'disinterested manufacturers' showing its evil effects, etc., put to shame those of Mark Twain in his palmiest days."

Colliers has made a thorough investigation of the entire subject producing exhibits and the *facts* and emphasizing the real evil of this nefarious traffic of "Tainted Views." We quote the following from the issue of May 4, and would advise that the complete article be secured and read:

"THE SUBSIDIZED CAMPAIGN AGAINST MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP."

"Journalism," said Mr. George W. Ochs recently, "is beset by many tempters; they pursue editors and reporters with blandishments, sophistry, and lures of every kind

to promote personal, political, or financial ends." And the "Wall Street Journal," discussing "Tempters of Journalism," affirms that "no one not trained in a newspaper office has any idea of the arts employed to deceive, use, and corrupt newspapers."

There have been, and still are, newspapers which sell their news columns, and often their editorial columns, for a dollar a line, more or less. There have been, and still are, well-known agencies, go-betweens, whose business is the making of these contracts for "tainted news." Through them, literally millions of dollars have been paid out to some American newspapers by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, by the Equitable Company, and by other corporations.

"CONVERTING PUBLIC OPINION."

But this business, by the exposures of the Armstrong Committee, has been made publicly malodorous and dangerous to both the bribers and the "tainted" newspapers. What still remains of it will be told later; the present article deals with a number of less crude and more adroit "tempters of journalism" who practice a tainting of the news in which editors and publishers figure wholly as victims, and are guilty of nothing more than gullibility, or lack of vigilance in guarding their columns. These *agencies secure the publication of articles and propaganda favorable to the interests which employ them by a careful keeping in the background of the identity of their employers, and a skilful treatment of their propaganda with artificial appetizers, coloring matter, and disinfectants, whereby the newspapers are deceived as to its true nature and source.*

Of these agencies the one which has been and now is employed by the most important corporations, goes by various names. In Boston it is the Publicity Bureau, in New York the Press Service Company, in Washington the National News Service. Its proprietors also do business on letter-heads which contain nothing more than their names, Michaelis & Ellsworth (Ellsworth is no longer a member of the firm), and the somewhat cryptic words, "Industrial Statistics." Still another of their names is "Specialists in Relations to Consumers." In all of these guises their business is the *manufacture of public opinion favorable to the corporations and interests which employ them.* They hire themselves out to change public sentiment. Most often it is to quiet the clamorous indignation which some corporation has brought upon itself by the revelation of its wrong-doing; occasionally it is to sow the seeds of corporation propaganda, to fertilize the public mind for the friendly reception of some long-planned move in corporation aggrandizement. This they accomplish through a subtle use of the press which constitutes a deception of the public, and usually involves the practice of guile as to the newspapers. It does not involve the payment of money to the newspapers.

ANONYMOUS OPPONENTS OF MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

The principal client of the Michaelis and Ellsworth concern is a group of modest philanthropists who do not believe in municipal ownership, and are able and willing to spend a great deal of money to insinuate their disbelief into the columns of the press through the agency of the Publicity Bureau and its various branches in Boston, Chicago, New York, and Washington. Collier's has sought diligently to learn the identity of these open-handed philanthropists, but has failed. The managers of the Publicity Bureau refuse to tell; and another agent of the same anti-municipal ownership group, who deals more frankly with the press under the name of "The M. O. Publishing Bureau," refuses to go farther than saying that his bureau is supported "by the subscriptions of a large number of men, many of them well known to the public, who wish to present the other side of municipal ownership." Failing to secure more definite information, Collier's feels privileged to infer that these shrinking philanthropists, who are paying out their money to enlighten the public on an abstract economic question, are not entirely dissociated with the ownership of securities in public-service corporations. Keeping the public persuaded that municipal ownership would be very bad may soon be a regular item in the operating expenses of public-service corporations. You pay your nickel to the street-car company, and in due time the proper fraction of it comes back to you in the evening paper in the shape of a "tainted news" item, reciting the deplorable failure of municipal ownership in some foreign city.

This anti-municipal ownership doctrine is spread by the Publicity Bureau in their typical manner. Here is one of their semi-weekly Washington letters sent out under their Washington name, "The National News Service." It appears in the Jacksonville (Fla.) "Times-Union," under the heading, "Current Chat and Comment from the National Capital." It appears also in a hundred and fifty other papers of equal rank, which don't want to maintain a Washington correspondent of their own, but are willing to print a Washington letter that comes off them free.

OTHER METHODS OF FIGHTING MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

These or some other plethoric opponents of municipal ownership are disseminating their propaganda by other agencies whose methods are less frank, even, than the Publicity Bureau's.

When the reader of a New York newspaper comes upon a half-column or more of short items detailing the failure of municipal ownership in Sand Flat, Nevada, in Bosky Bottom, Iowa, in Long Coulee, Wisconsin, and in half a dozen other like centres of Western enterprise, he need not necessarily infer that the West is excited about it. It is only that the propaganda's press agents have been busy. Their plan is described in the following letter from a newspaper man in Iowa:

"Last summer I was visited by a newspaper man of Omaha, who made the trip here especially to see me. He had learned that at that time I represented a number of the larger papers as correspondent. He wanted it understood the conversation was to be strictly confidential. He made it known that he had been designated by some one, representing interests whose identity was unknown to him, to work up news calculated to convince the public that municipal ownership is a failure. His proposition was to pay me a bonus of \$20 a column for all news matter that I could get into papers I represented. He told me that he was going the next week to Denver and indicated he would eventually cover Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, South Dakota, and Minnesota. We publish about 400 ready prints here, and he intimated to me I could get a check for \$100 for every anti-municipal ownership story I got into our papers. It had been made plain to him, he said, that there was no limit to the amount of money that could be made, so long as the matter got into the newspapers.

"The plan worked with remarkable success. I of course handled no stories, but I watched the newspapers, and it was amazing to find how many of the big papers were victimized. In that respect, the campaign was the most successful of any I have ever known. If a correspondent should get a half-column story into 10 papers, he would receive from the papers themselves \$25, and from the anti-municipal ownership people \$100. Some correspondents did this well every other week. In view of the premium it is needless to suggest that in every possible case stories of municipal ownership were colored to suit the bureau.

"Very truly, R."

We hope to be pardoned for seeming to take satisfaction in quoting at length an article sustaining our own opinion expressed five months earlier.

Those least capable of giving an opinion usually advance many.

Misery loves company; but that's no reason why it should have it.

Ridicule never adds to the prestige of the man who uses it for the purpose of demeaning another.

Considerable nerve and a doubtful reputation coupled with a large bank account are the requisites of statesmanship.

The desire to discern at all times, the right side of every issue is the paramount virtue in honest effort.

A Conceited man is the best example to other men that false self-esteem pays small dividends.

In speaking of the attainments or failures of other, remember that a good word may be "bread upon the waters."

The real value of an idea is in its dissemination rather than its possession; for tho the world may hold many unannounced geniuses; it benefits not a whit thereby.

A reasonable man listens to argument and gives judgment on the merits, while the fellow who knows it all gives judgment and then reasons with himself that he is absolutely right.

The desire to do something is commendable, but the exercise of effort for that something's accomplishment is of far greater value. For it is in the things we do there is satisfaction rather than in the desire to do them.

The lowest quality of meanness is displayed by that man who strives for self-advancement through character assassination. A good man may often meet with failure but he never seeks to regain lost ground at the expense of another.

The Golden Rule, a much prized relic of ancient days and occasionally used a century ago by designing literary characters has been adopted—with slight variations—by several eminently respectable gentlemen interested in Legislation and Railroads who are desirous of securing its universal acceptance by the people.

NO BAR ROOM MEETINGS.

"No bar room meetings" say the lathers. "All meeting rooms that are connected with saloons should be vacated." The delegates attending the recent lathers' convention are quoted as adopting the following resolution: "No local shall meet in any hall connected or communicating with any bar, nor shall the organization's charter be displayed in any bar or room adjacent to one."

We believe the spirit of the resolution to be a step in the right direction. There is a time and place for everything, but meeting rooms connected with or adjacent to saloons are not, in our opinion, conductive to the higher ideals and aspirations that organized labor stands for, and we hope to see the unions of all crafts benefit by adopting the healthy change suggested in the resolution adopted by the Lathers' International Union in convention assembled. There is no reason why organized labor should not own the finest of modern buildings, with the meeting rooms beautifully and artistically adorned. Libraries and reading rooms could be provided, and thus benefit the members in an educational way. We believe that gymnasiums could also be provided, and when our members feel the need of relaxation and amusement of an evening, they would always be sure of a place where an enjoyable and social time could be had. Several other features besides those mentioned, in the way of musical entertainments, lectures, etc., could also be introduced from time to time. Such surroundings always tend to elevate and bring about greater discipline and respect, and a firmer and truer brotherhood.

Environments have much to do with the conduct of men. How true it is that in the meeting rooms of fraternal and secret societies, the members are surrounded with these uplifting influences alluded to, and that during the meetings, no matter how intense the debate on any subject may grow, each brother desiring to speak rises to his feet with respect and tolerance for the opinion of others. Scarcely a harsh word is indulged in. Yet many of these same men, as members of a labor organization, are the very reverse in their deportment when in attendance at a meeting of their union. Why this change in gentlemanly conduct and speech takes place, we have often wondered, and we can reach no other conclusion than that the environments of the respective meeting rooms are responsible.

Organized labor in its work, if it means anything at all, is uplifting, and should not be confined simply to the wage scale and shorter hours. It should follow its uplifting of humanity by giving healthy surroundings when it comes to the selection of a meeting room. Let us have our meeting rooms cleaner and better furnished, and the lights brighter, and with these desirable changes will come a greater amount of gentlemanly deportment on the part of our members toward one another. The resolution adopted by the lathers might well be taken into consideration by all crafts, as it applies to all with equal force.—The Bricklayer and Mason.



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PETER W. COLLINS, Editor.
Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.

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Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.
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As **The Electrical Worker** reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., APRIL, 1907.

Advertising rates may be secured by writing to the Editor.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The First of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.

Vote of Executive Board on appeal of D. C. 3 of 2d District for \$500:

Graham	\$500 00
Godshall	500 00
Fitzgerald	No.
McLaughlin	300 00
King	250 00
O'Connor	300 00
Lofthouse	300 00
Amount voted	300 00

*Vote of E. B. on death claim of Sneed Fibble, Local 369.

Graham, yes.
Godshall, yes.
Fitzgerald, yes.
McLaughlin, yes.
King, yes.
Lofthouse, yes.
O'Connor, yes.

*Vote of E. B. death claim of Peter Flanagan, L. U. 137.

Graham, yes.
Godshall, yes.
Fitzgerald, yes.
McLaughlin, yes.
King, yes.
Lofthouse, yes.
O'Connor, yes.

*Claims referred to E. B. under Sec. 4, Art. 14.

NOTICES.

Grand Vice-President Reid reports a satisfactory settlement made with the Home Telephone company at Uniontown and Connellsburg. Local No. 142, of Wheeling, W. Va., on strike against the Bell Co. Local No. 246, of Stubenville, Ohio, on strike against the Bell Co. Trouble threatened at Youngstown, Ohio, in the jurisdictions of both local unions No. 62 and No. 64. Local Union No. 241, inside men organized at Dayton, O. The Philadelphia District Council decided at their recent convention to continue the strike against Bell Company in that district with renewed energy.

Grand Vice-President Noonan reports trouble of inside men in Local No. 31, Duluth, with contractors. Trouble with Street Railway and Light Company in Local No. 83, Milwaukee. Missouri and Kansas District Council still on strike against the Bell Co.

Grand Vice-President Sullivan reports that No. 6, San Francisco, pending. Rocky Mountain District in conference on agreements assisted by Grand President McNulty. Grand President McNulty enroute to San Francisco, returns to Boston for conference with Bell officials on May 31st, at Boston.



All brothers will please take notice of letter in April WORKER on page 41 written by Bro. Stephens, Rec. Sec. of No. 156, as we are very anxious to locate Mr. Lamkin, said Lamkin will probably be found around some carnival or amusement company. Any information as to his whereabouts will be appreciated by Chas. Funkhouser, Financial Secretary No. 156, Fort Worth, Tex., care Central Fire Hall.

If O. M. Neitzel sees this, please communicate with J. Mauldin, Dubuque, Ia., General Delivery.

If Brother Edward Cavanaugh or any other brother sees this that knows his address will please communicate with or write to Walter Watson, 6 Sherman ave., Thompkinville, S. I., N. Y.

It would be well for the members who left Pensacola, forgetting to settle their board and other bills to settle same and avoid the publicity of having their names placed in the WORKER. Wallace W. Worrell, President.

Jas. L. Davis, 204 Central ave., Hot Springs, Ark., is appointed Financial Secretary of No. 215.

If V. L. Rowell, formerly of 137, should see this notice, please write to A. M. Parish, 119 Seeley ave., Chicago, Ill.

Difficulty on with local contractors by Local Union No. 80. Dale Smith, Secretary, District Council.

We are expecting trouble and all members should remain away until further notice, and oblige. Yours fraternally, No. 136, J. R. Wilcox, R. S.

If Bro. Robert Robertson, Card No. 196023, also Bro. J. Claussen, Card No. 186024 and Bro Wm. Barrett, who were in Boston on Nov., 1906, will communicate with Fred M. Donald, 71 Wigglesworth st., Boton, Mass.

Brothers in the East and Middle West who are thinking of making the journey "O'er Canon and Crag to the Land of Gold" would do well to remember that all this alluring literature about California is being put out by Organized Capital. Don't be deceived brothers, but look up the correspondence from 61, 370, and other California locals and learn the true state of affairs from a labor standpoint.

W. W. Irvine, P. S.,
Local 370, Los Angeles.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Bro. Joe Curtis originally of No. 39, Cleveland will kindly advise John Campbell, 717 Superior Ave., Cleveland, O. His brothers remains are held in the vault awaiting burial and his folks desire his attendance.

INFORMATION NOTICES.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Brother A. W. Hooper, formerly of Pueblo, Col., and of Bro. J. C. Lathrop, formerly of Orangeburgh, S. C., will communicate with Bro. V. B. Haltiwanger, Box 783, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of C. J. Chisholm will kindly communicate or have him communicate with his brother, Val J. Chisholm, Rio de Janiero, South America, care of the Light & Power Co.

Brothers O'Brien and Barrett of Local No. 516 will kindly notify the secretary of Local Union No. 516 of their address. J. McWilliams, Secretary, 120 Webster Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.

If the following brothers see this notice kindly communicate with H. J. Quinn, R. S. Local Union No. 368, 301 E. 39th St., New York, N. Y. P. C. Calahan, F. Hontoon, and William Gillard.

John T. Ryan, 11 Erie County Bank Bdg., Buffalo, N. Y., desires Brother Francis H. Johnson, late of 519, of Paris, Ill., to communicate with him at once.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Bro. W. B. Shadwell, card No. 38093, out of Local No. 2, will confer a favor on the undersigned by dropping me a card. Signed, Harry Meyers, Secretary, 928 N. 17th St.

If M. L. McCarty a former member of Local No. 185 reads this will he please communicate with Dan A. Chisholm, Washington Hotel, Bellingham, Wash.

STRIKE NOTICE.

Local Union No. 213 called the strike against the British Columbia Telephone Company, off on Feb. 13th, 1907, Fraternally yours, J. L. Cook, Sec.-Treas. of Pacific District Council No. 1, I. B. E. W., 1414 8th avenue.

Members are hereby notified that Local No. 258 of Providence, R. I. are on strike and outside men are advised to keep away until difficulty is settled. Martin T. Joyce, Secretary District Council.

STOLEN.

Suit of clothes with card No. 191017 and due book of Local Union No. 533 in pockets, party taking same will please send card to J. R. Lewis, Financial Secretary of Local Union No. 533, 1115 Broadway, Enid, Okla.

LOST.

Card No. 12241, Brother L. Kelley, while enroute to Terre Haute, finder will kindly forward same to Secretary Harry Meyers of Local Union No. 2.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

Resolutions of condolence have been adopted by the several locals on the death of the following members:

W. F. Morley, L. U. 36, Sacramento, Cal

E. L. Bentley, L. U. 421, Watertown, N. Y.

S. J. Field, L. U. 523, North Yakima, Wash.

Walter J. Craig, L. U. 313, Wilmington, Del.

J. G. Johnson, Local No. 68 of Denver, Col.

F. N. Wooruff, L. U. 459, Cortland, N. Y.

Hiram Mitchell, of L. U. 121, Denver, Col.

Spike Cochran, of L. U. 121, Denver, Col.

THE FAITHFUL FEW.

When the meeting's called to order
And you look around the room,
You're sure to see some faces
From out the shadows loom,
That are always at the meeting,
And stay till it is through,
Those you sure can count on,
The Always Faithful Few.

They fill the vacant offices,
And are always on the spot,
No matter what's the weather,
Though it may be awful hot;
It may be dark and rainy,
But there's the tried and true;
The ones that you rely on,
The Always Faithful Few.

There's lots of worthy members,
Who come when in the mood,
When everything's convenient,
Oh—they do a little good;
They're a factor in the Order,
And are necessary, too;
But the ones who never fail us are
The Always Faithful Few.

If it were not for these faithful ones
With shoulders at the wheel
To keep the Order moving,
Without a halt or reel,
What would be the fate of orders,
That have so much to do?
They surely would go under
But for the Faithful Few.—Ex.

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

In the recent message of President Roosevelt to Congress regarding the Panama canal he makes the following statement:

"It certainly ought to be unnecessary to point out that the American working-man in the United States has no concern whatever in the question as to whether the rough work on the Isthmus, which is performed by aliens in any event, is done by aliens from one country with a black skin or aliens from another country with a yellow skin. Our business is to dig the canal as efficiently and as quickly as possible; provided always that nothing is done that is inhuman to any laborers, and nothing that interferes with the wages of or lowers the standard of living of our own workmen."

If this statement is true, then the wage workers of the United States have no business to be tolerated as citizens of this country, and it would be advisable on the part of the government or someone else to deprive every wage worker of the right of suffrage and of the right to take any

interest in the affairs of his government. When a president of the United States can declare that the working men of the United States have no concern as to who does the work upon the canal, he has gone to a length in belittling and insulting the working people of this country that no other public man has ever done since the nation was founded, and I doubt if any European ruler or statesman could be found who would make such an assertion. If the working men are not interested in who does the work of the government of a rough character, as designated by the president in his message in reference to the canal, I would like to know who in the world is interested. They are the people who do this work in the United States, and they are the people above all others who are interested, directly interested, as to who is to do this class of work for the United States wherever the United States may have any of it done, whether it be in Panama, the Philippine Islands, Washington, D. C., or anywhere else.—The Tailor.

THE OBJECT OF ORGANIZATION.

The Workingman Can Only Free Himself from Oppression by Collective Action—Views of Judge Caldwell, of the New York Circuit Court.

JN THIS country the right of wage earners and others to associate together and act collectively is not a boon granted by the government. It is not derived from the constitution, statutes or judicial decisions. It antedates the constitution. It is a natural and inherent right. It is the natural weapon of weakness.

The right of men to combine together for lawful purposes necessarily carries with it the right to combined action. Of what utility is organization without the right of collective action? Collective action is implied in the very term "organization." Organization has no other object. Man, by nature, is a social being. Association and collective action by those having common interests for their protection and material, moral and mental improvement is a natural instinct.

The idea of the power of men in association has always been abhorrent to despots and to those who wish to oppress their fellow men because its free exercise is fatal to despotism and oppression. The strength it imparts carries its own protection. In all ages those who seek to deprive people of their rights justify their action by ancient and obsolete precedents, and coining definitions suited to their ends.

People can only free themselves from oppression by organized force. No people could gain or maintain their rights or liberties acting singly, and any class of citizens in the state subject to unjust burdens of oppression can only gain relief by combined action. All great things are done and all great improvements in social conditions achieved by the organization and collective action of men. It was the recognition of these truths that prompted the promulgation of the proposition we are discussing. The doctrine that compels every man to be a stranger in action to every other man is contrary to the constitution and genius of our government.

It is a doctrine abhorrent to free men. It is in hostility to a law of man's nature, which prompts him to associate with his fellows for his protection, defence and improvement. Under its operation every religious, political or social organization in the country may be enjoined from combined action, if their religious faith or political creed or practice is obnoxious.

While laborers, by the application to them of the doctrine we are considering,

are reduced to individual action, it is not so with the forces arrayed against them. A corporation is an association of individuals for combined action; trusts are corporations combined together for the very purpose of collective action; and capital, which is the product of labor, is in itself a powerful collective force. Indeed, according to this supposed rule, every corporation and trust in the country is an unlawful combination; for, while its business may be of a kind that its individual members, each acting for himself, might lawfully conduct, the moment they enter into a combination to do the same thing by their combined effort the combination becomes an unlawful conspiracy. but the rule is never so applied. Corporations and trusts and other combinations of individuals and aggregations of capital extend themselves right and left through the entire community, boycotting and inflicting irreparable damage upon and crushing out small dealers and producers; stifling competition, establishing monopolies, reducing the wages of the laborers, raising the price of food on every man's table and of the house that shelters him, and inflicting on the wage earners the pains and penalties of the lockout and blacklist, and denying to them the right of association and combined action by refusing employment to those who are members of labor organizations; and all these things are justified as a legitimate result of the evolution of industries resulting from new social and economic conditions, and of the right of every man to carry on his business as he sees fit, and of lawful competition. On the other hand, when laborers combine to maintain or raise their wages, or otherwise to better their conditions or to protect themselves from oppression, or to attempt to overcome competition with their labor or the products of their labor in order that they may continue to have employment and live, their actions, however open, peaceful and orderly, are branded as a "conspiracy." What is "combination" when done by capital is "conspiracy" when done by the laborers. No amount of verbal dexterity can conceal or justify this glaring discrimination, if the vast aggregation and collective action of capital is not accompanied by a corresponding organization and the collective action of laborers. This is demanded not in the interest of wage earners alone, but by the highest considerations of public policy.

The very objects of labor organizations

is to impart to every laborer the strength of all. A great nation will go to war to maintain the rights of its humblest citizen. A nation that would not do this would justly lose the respect of every other nation, and soon no respect would be paid to the rights of its citizens. The cause of one laborer is the cause of all laborers. Organized labor must give to each of its collective force and influence, else they will fall, one by one, a sacrifice to the greed of their employers. If labor or-

ganizations did not have the right to protect and defend the interests of its members, individually as well as collectively, they would be of no utility and would soon come under abject submission to capital, which grants nothing of fundamental value to wage earners which is not coerced to grant by the combined power of labor organizations or legislation brought about usually through their influence.

ANCIENT ORATORY.

THE great body of men invariably impute inability to speak well in public to want of ideas; whereas, in reality, it generally arises from want of practice, and often coexists with the greatest acquirements and the most brilliant genius. The main causes to which the extraordinary perfection of ancient oratory is to be ascribed, are the great pains which were bestowed on the education of the higher classes in this most difficult art, and the practice of preparing nearly all their finest orations before delivery. There were no short-hand writers in those days. The art of stenography was unknown. What was written came, and could only come, from the author himself. It is well known that several of the most celebrated speeches of Cicero never were delivered at all.

Indeed, to any one who considers the style of the speeches, not only of the great masters, but of all the orators of antiquity, it must be sufficiently evident that nearly all that has come down to us had been written. Some part, without doubt, was caught from the inspiration of the moment: a happy retort was sometimes the result of an interruption—a felicitous reply to an antagonist's attack. But these were the exceptions, not the rule.

Nor was less attention bestowed, in ancient times, upon training young men—to whatever profession they were destined—in that important and difficult branch of oratory which consists in intonation and delivery. Cicero, when advanced in life, and in the meridian of his fame took lessons from Roscius, the great tragic actor of the day; and the efforts of Demosthenes to overcome the impediments of a defective elocution, by putting pebbles in his mouth, and declaiming on the shores of the ocean, the roar of which resembled the murmurs of the forum, demonstrate that the greatest masters of the art of eloquence were fully alive to the vast influence of a powerful voice and animated delivery, in heightening

the effect even of the most perfect efforts of oratory.

When asked, What is the first requisite of eloquence? the last of these orators answered, "Action;" the second? "Action;" the third? "Action." Without going so great a length, and admitting the full influence of the genius of Demosthenes in composing the speeches which he so powerfully delivered, every one must admit the advantage of an impassioned delivery in heightening the effect of the highest, and concealing the defects of the most ordinary oratory.

We all know what would be the fate of a speaker in the House of Congress who should commit his speeches to memory, and take lessons from a Macready or Kean in their delivery. Beyond all doubt, derision would take the place of admiration; the laughs would be much more frequent than the cheers. Yet something like this is precisely what Cicero and Demosthenes did; it was thus that Pericles ruled the Athenian Democracy, and Æschines all but overturned the giant strength of his immortal adversary.

We are not to imagine that these men, whose works have stood the test of twenty centuries, were wrong in their system; it is not to be supposed that every subsequent nation of the earth has misdirected its admiration. It is more probable that some circumstances have occurred to turn oratory, in modern times, aside from its highest flights, and induced a style in public speaking which has now become habitual, but which is inconsistent with the most perfect attainment in the art.

Nor is it difficult, if we consider the composition of modern senates, and the objects for which they are assembled, to see what these circumstances are. But rely upon it, opportunities for oratory in its very highest style are not wanting. What is wanting is due attention early in life to that noble art, the lofty spirit which aims at great objects, and the energetic will, the resolute perseverance, which deem the labor of a life time a light price to pay for their attainment.—*Blackwoods Magazine.*

A FORCIBLE ADDRESS.

By Secretary of State Whalen at a Mass Meeting at Troy, New York—Lable and Child Labor—A Strong Trade Union Speech Which Appeals to Workers.

AT a mass meeting on March 13 in Federation Hall, in Troy, N. Y., under the auspices of the Anti-Child Labor League of that city, Secretary of State Whalen made a strong trade union speech, a part of which we are able to produce through the courtesy of John J. Manning, secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Shirt, Waist and Laundry workers. Secretary Whalen's views on the union label and child labor are forcibly presented and ought to make a strong impression on the fair-minded, be they employers or workingmen. He spoke in part as follows:

"I was asked up here to speak on the subject of child labor, but it looks as if this had turned out to be a Whalen meeting. I do not care about having any bouquets thrown at me. It is my purpose to give you the same old talk that I have given often before. It is to appeal to you to be consistent and practice what you preach. It is a matter of pride to me that I was elected last fall to the third office of importance in the Empire State, but I am also proud that I am a trade unionist. I have never aspired to be a politician. I never asked a man for the nomination, never work a day at the polls, never spent a cent for political purposes and never paid a cent for a vote. I believe that a workingman has as much right to aspire to a public office as those who have laid claim to offices as their exclusive right. I want to show that the laborer is far advanced over what he was forty years ago. It will be my purpose to show to the people of this state and the people of the United States that a laboring man can make a good record in public office. When I made my appointments I looked for the best men in trade union ranks, and I have told them that it all rests with them whether the conduct of the office shall prove to be a record of which all organized labor will be proud.

SIGNIFICANCE OF LABEL.

"I want to say a word on union labels. You speak of what this one does and what that one ought to do, but you ought to see that a little of the fault lies with yourself. The women scramble for some bargain just because it is cheap, but they never think how the goods are manufactured. The white label was adopted in California thirty-eight years ago by the Cigarmakers' Union, and people were told to look out for the white label, be-

cause there was danger from catching leprosy from tobacco that did not bear it. The blue label of today does not mean to look out for leprosy, but it does signify that the goods are not made by children. The tobacco trust employs 16,000 children under fourteen years of age. Do you practice what you preach? Do you here in Troy use only the goods bearing the union label? I know for a fact that brands of tobacco are used here that are made by the trust, in many cases the work of child labor.

SHOULD MAKE IT THE STYLE.

"The woman should make it the style to go out and demand the union label. Think what it would accomplish if they did. Perhaps none of your children work in the mills and factories, but remember that children just as dear to their mothers as yours, are at work stripping tobacco in the factories. Here is an Associated Press dispatch, dated Philadelphia in April of last year. It tells of a fire in a factory where the doors were all closed and locked, making it impossible for the little workers to escape. After the article tells how the firemen did their work, a list is given of eight little bodies found in the ruins. One was twelve years of age, another is twelve years of age, another thirteen, another ten, another twelve, another eighteen, another seventeen and one is the body of an unknown girl aged thirteen years. Mention is also made of three other children seriously injured and taken to the Pennsylvania General Hospital. Did you think that such conditions could exist?

INCREASE IN CHILD LABOR.

It is up to you to create the demand of articles bearing the union label. According to statistics every fifth child between the ages of ten and fifteen years is a bread-winner and every third of the number is a girl. The statistics show an increase of 33 1-3 per cent of child labor in the last ten years. I appeal to men and women to simply be consistent. Enroll in the Anti-Child Labor League. You don't have to pay any dues. They do not ask you to come to meetings. Help in this fight against child labor. Talk against it at all times and in all places. You have the purchasing power, and it should be exercised in favor of goods bearing the union label and in that way against the goods made by the sweat of

women and children. Help this work by refusing to buy the goods, and in that way take the children out of the factories and let them go to school and get an education. Strikes are things of the past. The purchasing power is the great strength men and women have to fight with in this cause. It is what they all live on.

APPEAL TO BE CONSISTENT.

The tobacco trust says that it will put our union out of business when 95 per cent of the tobacco is used by the laboring class of people. The tobacco trust hires in this country 16,000 children under the age of sixteen years. It does not locate

its factories in the North, but in the South, where there are no laws regulating child labor. It is a standing joke that the people of Troy use in great quantities a certain brand of tobacco that does not bear the union label. I appeal to you all to be honest, to be consistent. On January 1, I administered the oath of office to Governor Hughes, and I am proud of the fact that everything I had on from head to foot bore the union label. I appeal to you all to help the cause in this way. The members of the trade unions should regard them not as a body of scappers, but as a great fraternal organization for the uplifting of humanity.—The Mine Workers' Journal.

PACIFIC DISTRICT COUNCIL NO. 1.

To Local Unions in Jurisdiction of Pacific Council, I. B. E. W.—Greeting:

Since April 1st, report L. U. 207 has paid up all arrearages and is now in good standing, New L. U. 345 is starting out right by paying up and is O.K. L. U. 230 has voted to pay up and am sure from information at hand, that the other Locals that are in arrears will be in line very shortly.

Carpenter strike at Vancouver makes it dull for insidemen.

Pay no attention to adds, "Electricians wanted at Reno, Nevada," as these are open shop adds.

The term of Organizer Didisch for the N. W. has been extended by vote of the E. B. for two months more, this will make his term end June 23d. The term of Organizer Kennedy for the South, expires June 30th, 1907.

The L. U. 6 trouble is still on and McCarthy is resorting to all the contemptible methods of the worst strike breakers in the Country, and even teaching them new methods of knavery, and rascality to endeavor to force No. 6's members back to \$5.00 per day when their employers are willing to and are giving \$6.00 per day.

He has even had his tin horn sycophants and rats hatch up a conspiracy against the active members of L. U. No. 6 to get them in jail and away from the fight, by having them arrested for and alleged kidnapping conspiracy, claiming that they were trying to kidnap him (McCarthy) it is known that it was his own hirelings that put up the job on No. 6's members, and while McCarthy has made himself the laughing stock of the Community, and his pipe dream made the subject for stage jokes, when the real facts are revealed it will reveal only a

part of the desperate knave that he is and will bring him that much further on the road to his final and complete downfall, and will place him among the capitalists, whom he alleges are against him. When it is a well known fact that he made his first and only attack on the Fairmount Hotel, where the owners were hiring the men direct and paying the highest wages in the city, where he compelled the owner to discharge his men, and employ a contractor to do the work, and this is at the request of the Contractors association, who are determined to make an example of any man who does not first pay tribute to them.

McCarthy will keep up his libelling people, and having them imprisoned falsely, until some one will land a suit against him that will very materially lessen his large and constantly increasing assessment roll, not mentioning the interests he holds in various corporations and contracting concerns.

This whole kidnapping scheme was gotten up to offset the effect of No. 6 putting her men to work with the Alamenda Co. B. T. C. card, and taking away the work from his rats, No. 6's men after being called out, and showing McCarthy's weakness are at work again in spite of him, and the rats are on the run.

We understand there has been or will be a general lay off of men in all departments of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. "The Shine" for the whole Coast, traveling Brothers, should keep away from here at present. Note new address of S. T. With best wishes to all.

Fraternally yours,

Pacific Council, I. B. E. W.

J. L. Cook, No. 1253 High St., Fruitvale, California.

ARBITRATION.

Address delivered by Mr. Herman Ridder, President of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, at Mr. Andrew Carnegie's residence, Friday evening, April 5, before the National Civic Federation, but owing to Mr. Ridder's inability to be present his son, Mr. Bernard H. Ridder, read the following paper, which was prepared with the kindly assistance of Mr. John Norris:

Arbitration has secured industrial peace for 200 members of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, employing four-fifths of all newspaper labor. In six years there has not been a strike or cessation of work in any of the Union composing rooms of our Association. There has not been a single disagreement which has not been amicably adjusted. We are glad to report that agreements just signed provide for a continuance of that happy condition for an additional period of five years. Neither employer nor employee has been subjected to the wasting effects of warfare; both sides have been gainers. The publishers are paying higher wages. The unions are treating the publishers with greater respect, greater caution, greater justice. Both sides are pleased. Our principal gain is not in the troubles we have settled, but in those we have prevented. Our labor commissioner reported that the past year had been the most quiet one of our history. There had been steady improvement of labor conditions and an increase of peaceful methods. We know of no other combination of employers which has succeeded in perfecting a great pact with the labor unions and in maintaining entirely satisfactory relations. The probable explanation of this outcome and our good fortune in the matter, lies in the fact that our employees are more intelligent than any other grade of labor and are more appreciative of what is right. These unions take pride, not in the number of strikes they have ordered in newspaper offices, but in the number of days' work they have provided for their members, and in the fact that they have in their ranks many skilled men to whom employers pay more than the scale to retain their services. These unions pride themselves that their word is their bond and that their treasures and authority are behind their agreements.

The American Newspaper Publishers' Association is a voluntary organization of 270 papers, covering every considerable city of the Union. It has no power to compel any member to act, outside of his own volition. We employ compositors, stereotypers and mailers who work under our International Typographical Union agreement. We employ pressmen who work under our agreement with the International Printing Pressmen and Assist-

ants' Union. We employ photo-engravers who work under an agreement with the International Photo Engravers' Union. These national agreements with labor organizations are not labor contracts. They simply provide a way by which each individual publisher may secure arbitration without interruption to his business, the national labor organization with which the contract is made by each publisher, guaranteeing the performance of all its contracts by unions under its jurisdiction; in other words, it underwrites local arrangements. Those agreements have stood the practical test of time and of wide application under an extreme range of conditions. They are workable.

At the outset, we recognized labor unions. We dealt with labor representatives, realizing that when we did so we ceased to recognize the individual, but in doing so we increased the responsibility of the union and the union admitted its obligation. We accepted the closed shop. We substantially accepted the eight-hour day. We assumed that arbitration is possible only when the parties in dispute approach the question in a fair and conciliatory way. We had interests in common and we dealt on the basis that we were not members of hostile classes. We have not wrangled over trifles. We have explained our relative positions and have avoided many difficulties which arise from haughtiness. We have studied patience. We knew that the labor question was full of complications, and that the leaders of the union must exercise great patience and tact in controlling the men who elect them to office. We started out to promote a better understanding between the Association and our employees. We established a labor bureau and elected a commissioner with manifold duties. He assisted in settling labor disputes. He worked to secure the appointment of joint national arbitration committees for the adjustment of labor troubles that could not otherwise be settled. He obtained data upon all subjects pertaining to the mechanical work of newspapers. Publishers were thereby equipped to deal intelligently with the unions. We cultivated friendly relations with the organized wage earners. Our commissioner attended their conventions and addressed them. He did so every year. Their presidents came to our conventions annually and talked to us. They send to our commissioner regularly the proceedings of their conventions, the copies of their official organ and their reports. Our dealings have been marked with courtesy, promptness, and fairness. Disagreements have occurred and diametrically opposite views have been held, but we have always managed to arrive at some sort of understanding

which, while not altogether satisfactory, has prevented friction and trouble.

The first contract became effective May 1, 1901. It was a tentative agreement with the International Typographical Union for one year to settle differences arising from existing contracts. At the end of that period we entered into a second agreement for a term of five years, adding an important provision for the arbitration of wages and hours in new scales. In the settlement of each dispute we arranged to try, first, conciliation, then local arbitration, and, finally, national arbitration. It is gratifying to report that more than half of the new scales were settled by conciliation.

Our third agreement, which begins May 1, 1907, and continues for five years, covers wages, hours and working conditions. In it we have attempted a radical departure, new at least on this side of the ocean, though we understand it has been tried successfully in England. We are doing away with the third man in arbitration. We think it is an advance step. Usually, the third man has been unfamiliar with the publishing business. His decision has been more or less of a compromise, and it has been described as a "hit or miss" affair. The tendency of arbitration with the third man is toward a compromise, but without any definite or established principle. We have aimed at the perfect equality of both sides in the settlement of any controversy that might arise, the final judgment to be rendered by three representatives of each national body. If this new arrangement meets our requirements, then we will have brought the settlement of industrial disputes to an ideal plane.

In working out the amicable adjustment of our differences we encountered in 1903

a difficulty because we did not have a code of procedure which would guide and govern arbitrators in passing upon questions. Ultimately a draft was formulated and adopted which facilitated work and minimized the occasion for disputes. Later on we were confronted by the advocates of the sympathetic strike. It was contended that our contract could not prevail if a newspaper had a dispute with a union that was affiliated with those under agreement. When this position was taken by the unions we refused to make any agreement to do other than pay the scale, and because of our firmness in that respect the sympathetic strike idea was abandoned.

It is true that under arbitration neither side has obtained what it thought it was entitled to receive, but we have maintained friendly relations at all times. We have produced our newspapers without interruption, and our employees have had the opportunity of work uninterrupted by strike or lock-out. The recognition of the principle of arbitration has tended to increase the stability of investment in newspaper property. Its chief value has been the means it afforded us for the settlement of minor contentions which formerly caused infinite trouble, often leading to destruction of property, enormous losses of wages and the engendering of passion. Our payments for the maintenance of our special standing committee have been payments for industrial insurance, just as we pay for fire and accident insurance.

We look forward to the day when the unions will realize that all union men should be proficient in their work and of good moral character in order that publishers may not want other than union men.

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

The *American Bureau of Industrial Research*, under the direction of Professors Richard T. Ely and John R. Commons of the University of Wisconsin, is now at work upon a careful History of Industrial Democracy in America. The University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Historical Library are co-operating in this undertaking. The Library has furnished accommodations in its large, modern, strictly fire-proof building where all material is catalogued and stored in such manner as to be available for students and investigators at all times. The Bureau desires to secure a complete file of THE ELECTRICAL WORKER. Convention proceedings of trade organizations and constitutions as amended at each con-

vention are also desired. Anyone having in his possession, or knowing of these or any other material bearing upon the subject, is requested to communicate with the American Bureau of Industrial Research, Madison, Wisconsin.

The readers of this journal are reminded of the frequent loss, by fire and other causes, of valuable records and publications when kept in the ordinary dwelling house. The American Bureau of Industrial Research is doing a valuable service to the country in thus providing for systematic preservation of labor material. Co-operation on the part of all interested in the labor movement cannot be too strongly urged.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY LAW AND THE COURTS.

BY SAMUEL GOMPERS.

One of the best and most creditable acts of the first session of the last Congress, as our readers are aware, was that in regard to the liability of common carriers for accidents to their employers. As two federal judges almost simultaneously declared the act unconstitutional, and three other judges of co-ordinate jurisdiction, in as many cases, have sustained it, the question involved may profitably be considered here from the standpoint of common sense and public feeling.

Let us first recall the principles of the act and the chief changes it makes in the law concerning employers' liability.

Briefly, the act abrogated the old, antiquated, and flagrantly unjust "fellow-servant" doctrine, and modified the doctrine of contributory negligence, which was scarcely less unjust and unreasonable. It provided that every common carrier be liable for all damages that might result from the negligence of its officers, agents, or employes. It also provided that the contributory negligence of an injured (or dead) employe should not be a bar to the recovery of damages where his negligence was slight and that of the employer (or his agent or other employe) was gross in comparison; that the damages in any such case should be diminished by the jury in proportion to the negligence attributable to the victim of the accident.

For many years organized labor has endeavored to procure legislation of this character from the several states. Owing to the opposition of selfish employers and their sophistical attorneys, progress toward justice to industrial victims has been painfully slow. Little has been done to stop the industrial slaughter, little to provide, against accidents and disability. The United States is behind every European country with regard to the protection of life, limb, and health of workingmen and workingwomen.

Congress, which is not, as we know, over-generous to labor, was induced to pass the employers' liability law. Few ventured to criticise it, while many legal and lay journals gave it their warm approval.

Why did two federal courts declare it unconstitutional? Two major reasons were assigned. One does not concern us, for it is purely technical and verbal. The other is fundamental.

The act, said the two courts, is not in any true sense a regulation of interstate commerce. It creates a new liability, or rather two new liabilities; it defines the relations between carriers and their employers in certain cases. What have these things to do with the transportation of property and the transit of persons be-

tween the states? It is true that commerce may be indirectly regulated by regulating the instrumentalities, but the liability act does not even affect the instrumentalities of commerce.

This reasoning was severely attacked in the press, though some learned lawyers endorsed it and described the act as a disingenuous—not to say tricky—attempt on the part of Congress by stretching and misconstruing the commerce clause on the constitution, to regulate something with which it had no power to deal.

Since then, as we noted above, the federal circuit courts have upheld the act. The most notable of the favorable decisions is that rendered in March by Judge Emory Speer at Macon, Ga. Judge Speer is a staunch defender of such state rights as seem to him valuable and practical. In connection with the employers' liability act he was unable to see wherein any right of the states was infringed. Nor was he able to discover much in the objection that to regulate the liabilities of the railroads as employers was to go outside of the sphere of the interstate commerce clause in the federal constitution.

The power to regulate interstate commerce on land, Judge Speer holds, is co-extensive with the power to regulate foreign commerce, commerce on the seas and the internal waterways. Legislation governing the liabilities of shipowners and their relations with the seamen has been enacted again and again, and its validity is not even called into question.

Further on, in giving his opinion on the law, the judge continues:

If, then, Congress has the established right to control the relative duties of the shipowners and the seamen, both of whom are instrumentalities of commerce, both absolutely essential to its proper and effective conduct, or any conduct, upon what sound reasoning can its control of the rights and liabilities of other men engaged in the transportation by land of the same commerce be denied? The employes of a railroad company are essential instruments to the existence under modern conditions of interstate traffic on land. The locomotive engineers, firemen, the train hands, the track hands, the conductors, and all the rest are as essential to this traffic as are the masters, pilots, engineers, and sailors to navigation. The power to regulate, as we have heretofore seen, is unlimited in its application to such traffic. How narrow, then, is the contention that this regulation may be extended to the inanimate machinery and commodities engaged and not to the men without whose services not a wheel would revolve and not an ounce of freight would be transported.

Moreover, Congress has legislated with

regard to safety appliances for the protection of passengers and employes, the transportation of lottery tickets, the issuance of passes, the keeping of records of accidents, and so on, and all these things have been done under the brief and general "commerce clause."

Is it reasonable to draw the line at the abrogation of the fellow-servant doctrine and the contributory negligence rule, and say that the power to regulate commerce on land is insufficient to effect these desirable and just reforms?

Judge Speer adds these interesting words, which we quote on account of their particular pertinence to our recent observations on the bias of federal courts against "labor legislation," "their straining at gnats" (where labor is concerned) after "swallowing camels" to accommodate corporations and "vested interests."

While I am aware that no determinations of this great question will be generally satisfactory save that of the Supreme Court, I have not felt at liberty to await the decision of that great tribunal, and thus avoid the responsibility of making my own determination of the pending case. I am clear as to the constitutionality of this measure, but if I were in doubt, I would uphold the law. It is a part of that splendid practical philosophy of government which is intended for the betterment of mankind. The statesmen who dealt with this question did not deal with abstractions. They were not en-

chanted with those flowers and blossoms which are sometimes woven into garlands to crown that divinity—the sovereign state. Like Lord Bacon in the "Novum Organum" and other works written to ameliorate the hardships of life, they were after "fruit."

These are refreshing and welcome sentiments. They should be commended to other federal judges who have occasion to pass on labor laws that corporations attack on imaginary constitutional grounds.

Surely, some progress has been made, and finally that splendid practical philosophy, which is intended for the betterments of mankind, will be accepted not only as the law of the land, but also the practical every-day action of life.

In the meantime, we find federal courts of equal jurisdiction holding variously and antagonistically upon fundamental rights and principles underlying the laws passed by Congress of the United States and signed by the President. Is there not, therefore, reason for the demand which labor makes for the enactment of a law by Congress that the courts of its creation, those inferior to the Supreme Court of the United States, shall not be permitted to pass upon the constitutionality of any law; but that this power shall be reserved solely and alone to the highest judicial tribunal of our country, the co-ordinate branch of our federal government, the United States Supreme Court.

REFORM IRRESISTIBLE.

MACAULAY.

IT IS a principle never to be forgotten, that it is not by absolute, but by relative misgovernment, that nations are roused to madness. Look at our own history. The liberties of the English people were, at least, as much respected by Charles the First as by Henry the Eighth, by James the Second as by Edward the Sixth. But did this save the crown of James the Second? Did this save the head of Charles the First? Every person who knows the history of our civil dissensions knows that all those arguments which are now employed by the opponents of the Reform Bill might have been employed, and were actually employed, by the unfortunate Stuarts.

The reasoning of Charles, and of all his apologists, runs thus: "What new grievance does the nation suffer? Did the people ever enjoy more freedom than at present? Did they ever enjoy so much freedom?" But what would a wise and honest counselor have replied? He would have said: "Though there has been no change in the government for the worse, there has been a change in the public

mind, which produces exactly the same effect which would be produced by a change in the government for the worse. It may be that the submissive loyalty of our fathers was preferable to that inquiring, censuring, resisting spirit which is now abroad. And so it may be that infancy is a happier time than manhood, and manhood than old age.

"But God has decreed that old age shall succeed to manhood, and manhood to infancy. Even so have societies their law of growth. As their strength becomes greater, as their experience becomes more extensive, you can no longer confine them within the swaddling-bands, or lull them in the cradles, or amuse them with the rattles, or terrify them with the bugbears, of their infancy. I do not say that they are better or happier than they were; but this I say,—they are different from what they were; you cannot again make them what they were, and you cannot safely treat them as if they continued to be what they were."

This was the advice which a wise and honest minister would have given to

Charles the First. These were the principles on which that unhappy prince should have acted. But no. He would govern,—I do not say ill, I do not say tyrannically; I say only this,—he would govern the men of the seventeenth century as if they had been the men of the sixteenth century; and therefore it was that all his talents, and all his virtues, did not save him from unpopularity,—from civil war,—from a prison,—from a bar,—from a scaffold!

Sir, I have from the beginning of these discussions supported Reform, on two grounds: first, because I believe it to be in itself a good thing; and, secondly, because I think the dangers of withholding it to be so great, that, even if it were an evil, it would be the less of two evils. I shall not relinquish the hope that this great contest may be conducted, by lawful means, to a happy termination. But of this I am assured, that, by means lawful or unlawful, to a termination, happy or unhappy, this contest must speedily come.

All that I know of the history of past times, all the observations that I have been able to make on the present state of the country, have convinced me that the time has arrived when a great concession must be made to the democracy of England that the question, whether the change be in itself good or bad, has become a question of secondary importance: that, good or bad, the thing must be done; that a law as strong as the laws of attraction and motion has decreed it.

I well know that history, when we look at it in small portions, may be so construed as to mean anything; that it may be interpreted in as many ways as a Delphic oracle. "The French revolution," says one expositor, "was the effect of concession." "Not so," cries another; "the French revolution was produced by the obstinacy of an arbitrary government." These controversies can never be brought to any decisive test or to any satisfactory conclusion. But, as I believe that history, when we look at it in small fragments, proves anything or nothing, so I believe that it is full of useful and precious instruction when we contemplate it in large portions,—when

we take in, at one view, the whole life-time of great societies.

We have heard it said a hundred times, during these discussions, that the people of England are more free than ever they were; that the government is more democratic than ever it was; and this is urged as an argument against Reform. I admit the fact, but I deny the inference. The history of England is the history of a government constantly giving way,—sometimes peaceably, sometimes after a violent struggle,—but constantly giving way before a nation which has been constantly advancing. It is not sufficient to look merely at the form of government. We must look to the state of the public mind.

The worst tyrant that ever had his neck wrung in modern Europe might have passed for a paragon in Persia or Morocco. Our Indian subjects submit patiently to a monopoly of salt. We tried a stamp-duty—a duty so light as to be scarcely perceptible—on the fierce breed of the old Puritans, and we lost an Empire! The government of Louis the Sixteenth was certainly a much better and milder government than that of Louis the Fourteenth: yet Louis the Fourteenth was admired, and even loved, by his people; Louis the Sixteenth died on the scaffold! Why? Because, though the government had made many steps in the career of improvement, it had not advanced so rapidly as the nation.

These things are written for our instruction. There is a change in society. There must be a corresponding change in the government. You may make the change tedious; you may make it violent; you may—God, in his mercy, forbid!—you may make it bloody; but avert it you cannot. Agitations of the public mind, so deep and so long continued as those which we have witnessed, do not end in nothing. In peace, or in convulsion,—by the law, or in spite of the law,—through the Parliament, or over the Parliament,—Reform must be carried. Therefore, be content to guide that movement which you cannot stop. Fling wide the gates to that force which else will enter through the breach.

WHEN LABOR IS ORGANIZED.

Dun's Weekly Trade Review pays a high tribute to organized labor. It says that the increased cost of living being beyond the increase in salaries do not bear out the Bureau of Labor's ante-election figures.

It also says that the unorganized workers, such as stenographers, bookkeepers, mercantile clerks, "cannot cope with the

increase." The organized workman is very little affected, because of his union keeping up the wages. Large employers have voluntarily increased organized labor's wages commensurate with the increased cost of living, but they have not increased the unorganized laborer's pay. The latter is, therefore, a great sufferer.—Trades Unionist.

NON-UNION MEN A MENACE.

Are More to be Feared Than Employer or Any One Else.

WHOM are the greatest enemies of organized labor? The first impulse would be to answer, "the corporations," "the trusts," or the employing classes generally. But is this so? Is it not rather the non-union workman?

Who is it defeats every movement of organized workmen to better conditions?

It is not the employer that the union need fear when entering into a conflict, but those who are of the same condition of life, and who would be equally benefitted by the success of the union and as members thereof. Every advance made and every advantage gained through the efforts of organized labor is shared by the unorganized, who have been the greatest obstacles in the progress of the movement.

How can men with the least spark of

mainly self-respect bear to watch the struggles of their union fellow-workmen and accept the results and benefits accruing from such struggles without lending a helping hand?

Every working man owes it to his self-respect; he owes it to his fellow-workman; to every thing he holds near and dear, to join hands with the union of his craft and do his share in the movement that means so much to all who toil. Should he be in search of employment he finds on every hand those eager to assist him, and should injustice be done him, just as eager to defend.

Come what will or may; it is much better to feel that one is doing his part along with fellow-workmen to make the world better than to, craven-like, accept the benefits of others' efforts without giving any aid.—Mine Worker.

WAVE OF TRADE UNIONISM UNQUESTIONABLY COMING.

It has been said that "there is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at its flood, leads on to fortune." As it is in the affairs of men, so must it be in the affairs or organizations of men, for, as in every other realm of nature, these organizations are subject to her immutable laws, and must rise or fall as they are observed or violated. The labor organization is no exception to the rule, and can profit by a study of her moods and of how to take advantage of them.

During the past few years trades unions have been started to such a great and wide extent as to tax to the utmost the capacity of the movement to assimilate them. This has been an effect of existing conditions, rather than a cause. Monopoly had raised the price of the necessities of life to such an extent that the wage worker who had been given an increase in wages of 10 per cent., and a considerable augmentation of working time, actually found that he was less able to make both ends meet than during the panic. The time then became ripe for organization, and it will be conceded that the harvest was large. Unions were formed in crafts that had never known the advantage of concerted action, and wages were in most cases materially advanced.

In a large majority of instances the positions taken have been firmly held. In

those where a retreat has had to be made, the result can almost invariably be laid to a lack of judgment or a lack of thorough organization. When the union was new everybody was enthusiastic, the meetings were largely attended, members were constantly on the lookout for new recruits and the tide was "at its flood." However, as soon as the novelty of the situation wore away, the enthusiasm began to flag, attendance decreased, and finally it was sometimes impossible to secure a quorum.

Some unions and some unionists seem to think that as soon as their requests have been granted they can hibernate, like a bear in the polar regions, for more than half a year. They forget that "eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty." Those who did not make large gains forget that it does not take much to be an equivalent to a year's dues and the effort to attend an occasional meeting. In short, they did not take the tide "at its flood." How could they expect to reap any adequate reward?

It may be stated here that the tide of trades unionism is at the present time unquestionably on the rise. A careful perusal of the labor papers from all parts of the country will disclose the fact that there is a feeling of optimism everywhere. Those who fell by the wayside, more or less seriously wounded, are being picked up by the hospital corps (the trade union

organizers and resuscitated into renewed life and vigor. The true and tried warriors are still right on the firing line, and numerous hitherto impregnable positions are being captured from the enemy.

There is every reason in the world to feel encouraged at the present outlook, and the labor movement should place itself in shape to take the next tide "at its flood." In the meantime, the order should be to "close ranks and forward march." It is necessary, however, to have a full quota of scouts in the field, in order to ascertain the location and strength of the opposing forces, so that the traps of the wily antagonist may be avoided.

For the fair employer, we cannot say too much in his favor, and it is the duty of every unionist who has the welfare of the movement at heart, to treat him with all the consideration that may be his due, and we can afford to throw in an oc-

casional slice for good measure. We must remember that he has to sell his goods in competition with the shark that runs the scab shop. Many times he would do more for us if he could.

The worker who has a good employer should take good care of him. This is one of the best ways in the world to retain the union shop after we have got it. The fair employer is a human being as well as the rest of us, and is simply doing the best he can under existing circumstances. What we have got to show his competitor is that he is losing money by not "being good." It is barely possible that in the not distant future all shops will be "fair." Let unionists start the ball rolling by becoming fair themselves. "A fair day's work for a fair day's pay," and that day's pay spent for union labeled goods—is it not possible that this would hasten the rising "tide, which, taken at its flood, leads on" to pure and perfect brotherhood?—Piano and Organ Workers' Journal.

PAT ROONEY ON TROUBLE.

FROM THE AMERICAN TELEPHONE JOURNAL.

PAT ROONEY a Cleveland lineman is much averse to admitting ignorance of any branch of telephone work.

He started as a full-fledged lineman "on a bluff," to use his own expression. "Sure," he afterwards remarked, "phwats the sinse of alad startin' as a groundsman fur \$1.75 a day whin by only gettin' a pair of spurs and lookin' rale tough he kin be after gittin' \$2.85? Niver mind about the climbin' business; ye can larn that as ye go along. To use wan of the Cleveland Telephone Companie's mottos, 'There's a difference.' Look at me brother Dinny in New York. There was the gossoon for ye. I'll be blissed if he didn't start out as a Frinch instructor for some big bug family. Begorry, he didn't know as much Frinch as a dago, but that didn't worry Dinny. Well, I tell ye phwat he done. The day before he was to start instructing the kids, he goes to the Y. M. C. A. and takes his furst lissen in French. The next day he tached phwat he'd learned to the kids, and no wan was iver the wiser. The last I heard of him he were studying Frinch astronomy, be jaggers."

It is related of Pat that one of the first questions asked of him by the foreman was whether he could guy a pole.

"Begorry," Pat replied, "I've often guyed a Dootchman, but niver worked wid anny of them Poles."

One morning recently, after a heavy rainstorm, several linemen were pressed into service to assist in clearing trouble. Pat Rooney was one of the number, and it was his first experience as a troubleman.

The wire chief delegated Pat on a case of a swinging ground, which trouble Pat found readily enough, and, walking proudly into the office where the telephone was located, he opened the bell box, looked over the apparatus very knowingly and blew into the transmitter as 'experts' are wont to do. "Yer tellifone's all right now, sur," he remarked to the subscriber, who had been watching his every move.

"What was wrong?" asked the subscriber.

"High insulation resistance," responded Pat promptly.

"I don't know what that is," said the subscriber, suspiciously.

"Sartinly ye don't," said Pat with a look of superiority, "but if ye were a tellifone linesman ye'd understand it. Good day to ye, sur."

"Just wait a minute," shouted the subscriber, who had taken down the telephone receiver. "What is this scraping noise on the line? Here, listen for yourself."

Pat took the receiver, listened very intently for a few moments and, handing it back, replied:

"Don't bother yer head about that nise, me good man. It's only sparrows picking on the wire."

"But it is much louder at times than it is now," persisted the subscriber.

"Will, them's pigeons," argued Pat, without batting an eyelid. "Sure, sur, ye ought to be thankful ye ain't out Wist, where the aegles——"

But the subscriber had fled into the next office.

GRAY'S ELEGY.

WRITTEN IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD.

For more than a century and a half this Elegy has kept its place as one of the masterpieces of English verse. It has the threefold charm of exquisite diction, musical versification, and appropriate sentiment. In consenting to its publication the author wrote to Dodsley, the publisher, in 1751, "Print it without any interval between the stanzas, because the sense is in some places continued beyond them." Accordingly in the early editions it was printed, not in separated, but in continuous stanzas. The stanzas which Gray regarded as continuous, here end either with a colon, a semicolon, or a comma.

I.

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,
The plowman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

II.

Now fades the glimmering landscape on the sight,
And all the air a solemn stillness holds,
Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight,
And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds:

III.

Save that from yonder ivy-mantled tower
The moping owl does to the moon complain
Of such as, wandering near her secret bower,
Molest her ancient solitary reign.

IV.

Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap,
Each in his narrow cell forever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

V.

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,
The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

VI.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care;
No children run to lisp their sire's return,
Or climb his knees, the envied kiss to share.

VII.

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe
has broke;
How jocund did they drive their team afield!
How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

VIII.

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys and destiny obscure;
Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile
The short and simple annals of the poor.

IX.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth,
e'er gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour.
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

X.

Nor you, ye proud, impute to these the fault,
If Memory o'er their tomb no trophies raise,
Where through the long-drawn aisle and fretted vault
The pealing anthem swells the note of praise.

XI.

Can storied urn or animated bust
Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?
Can Honor's voice provoke the silent dust,
Or Flattery soothe the dull, cold ear of death?

XII.

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre:

XIII.

But Knowledge to their eyes her ample page,
Rich with the spoils of time, did ne'er unroll;
Chill Penury repressed their noble rage,
And froze the genial current of the soul.

XIV.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark, unfathomed caves of ocean bear;
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air,

xv.

Some village Hampden, that with dauntless breast
The little tyrant of his fields withstood,—
Some mute, inglorious Milton,—here may rest;
Some Cromwell, guiltless of his country's blood.

xvi.

The applause of listening senates to command.
The threats of pain and ruin to despise,
To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land,
And read their history in a nation's eyes.

xvii.

Their lot forbade; nor circumscribed alone
Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined;
Forbade to wade through slaughter to a throne,
And shut the gates of mercy on mankind;—

xviii.

The struggling pangs of conscious truth to hide,
To quench the blushes of ingenuous shame,
Or heap the shrine of luxury and pride
With incense kindled at the Muse's flame.

xix.

Far from the maddling crowd's ignoble strife
Their sober wishes never learned to stray;
Along the cool, sequestered vale of life
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

xx.

Yet even these bones from insult to protect,
Some frail memorial, still erected nigh,
With uncouth rhymes and shapeless sculpture decked,
Implores the passing tribute of a sigh.

xxi.

Their name, their years, spelt by the unlettered Muse,
The place of fame and elegy supply;
And many a holy text around she strews,
To teach the rustic moralist to die.

xxii.

For who, to dumb forgetfulness a prey,
This pleasing, anxious being e'er resigned,
Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day,
Nor cast one longing, lingering look behind?

xxiii.

On some fond breast the parting soul relies,
Some pious drops the closing eye requires;
Even from the tomb the voice of nature cries,
Even in our ashes live their wonted fires.

xxiv.

For thee, who, mindful of the unhonored dead,
Dost in these lines their artless tale relate,
If 'chance, by lonely contemplation led,
Some kindred spirit shall inquire thy fate,—

xxv.

Haply some hoary-headed swain may say,
"Oft have we seen him at the peep of dawn
Brushing with hasty steps the dews away,
To meet the sun upon the upland lawn."

xxvi.

"There, at the foot of yonder nodding beech
That wreaths its old fantastic roots so high,
His listless length at noon tide would he stretch,
And pore upon the brook that babbles by.

xxvii.

"Hard by yon wood, now smiling as in scorn,
Muttering his wayward fancies, would be rove,
Now drooping, woful-wan, like one forlorn,
Or crazed with care, or crossed in hopeless love.

xxviii.

"One morn I missed him on the accustomed hill,
Along the heath, and near his favorite tree:
Another came,—nor yet beside the rill,
Nor up the lawn, nor at the wood, was he:

xxix.

"The next, with dirges due, in sad array,
Slow through the churchway path we saw him borne:
Approach and read (for thou canst read)
the lay
Graved on the stone beneath yon aged thorn."

THE EPITAPH.

xxx.

Here rests his head upon the lap of earth
A youth to fortune and to fame unknown:
Fair Science frowned not on his humble birth,
And Melancholy marked him for her own.

XXXI.

Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere;
 Heaven did a recompense as largely send;
 He gave to misery (all he had) a tear,
 He gained from heaven ('t was all he wished) a friend.

XXXII.

No further seek his merits to disclose,
 Or draw his frailties from their dread abode,
 (There they alike in trembling hope repose,) The bosom of his Father and his God.

THE FARMERS AND THE LABOR UNIONS.

EQUITY PRESS BUREAU.

SINCE the world was, and since some men produced in one line and others in another, those who produced food stuff and those who consumed it have been thought to be enemies—one striving for a higher price and the other for a lower price for the same commodities. It was thought impossible to reconcile the fact that the farmers made more money when farm products were high, and that the wage laborers saved more money when farm products were low.

But since the organization of the Society of Equity, farmers have been studying as they never studied before, and on lines that were never before presented to them.

They have learned that the wage laborers are their principal customers, and without them their products must rot in the fields. They have learned also that the better wages the laborers receive the more can they consume of farm products and the better prices can they pay for them.

Having learned these things, the farmers were prompt to bring it before the wage earners, which they did at the great International Convention of the American Federation of Labor at Minneapolis last fall.

The laborers were as prompt to catch the idea as the farmers had been, and realized that the farmers were their best customers; that without the patronage of the farmers every shop and factory would close or run on very short time, and the laborers would be out of employment; also that, when the farmers get good prices for their products they are able to buy more of labor's products and thus stimulate all the industries.

Here was common ground on which both classes could stand, a ground of mutual interest and personal friendship, and they clasped hands.

It only remained to devise a means to safely adjust prices so that each should be benefited. The plan of the Society of Equity was adopted—that of the farmers themselves fixing the minimum prices on their products and then supplying the market, not in gluts, but to fully and

freely meet the demands for consumption. To accomplish this the organized farmers and organized laborers are uniting to establish Business Exchanges in all the great cities and centers of consumption. Food products will be shipped directly to these exchanges, whence the retail dealers and grocerymen will receive their stock and supply their customers with scarcely a ripple on the stream of business. The great advantage will be in cutting out the profit there is in speculating market methods and insuring to both producers and consumers equitable prices. A more important movement has not been inaugurated within the memory of this generation.

The new doctrine first took form at Minneapolis when the American Federation of Labor and the American Society of Equity clasped hands on common ground. It has now crystallized in action recently taken at Chicago between representatives of these two great bodies as exemplified below.

The first document is a declaration of facts and a statement of the needs of such action, with an outline of how it can be done, made by a preliminary committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor. Then comes a constitution formulated by a joint conference of the two great orders representing the two great classes of production and consumption, and approved by the Executive Board of the Chicago Federation of Labor, establishing "The Equity Exchange of Chicago," whose object is to secure such distribution of farm products as shall bring more steady and equitable prices to farmers, and, by eliminating market graft, supply organized laborers at lower prices than they are now compelled to pay. An efficient committee was appointed to work out the details and establish the Exchange. Steps were also taken to establish such exchanges in all the great cities and centers of consumption. The union between these great organizations, it must be understood, is not organic, but purely co-operative; and it is the greatest movement, more pregnant with great economic results than any movement that has been inaugurated within the centuries.

THE following editorial from The Dayton Daily News, the leading paper in the city of Dayton, O., we believe will be of interest to our readers. It indicates a change of sentiment in that community, and is a good size-up of John Kirby, who has long been trying to play the role made infamous by such characters as Parry, Post and Van Cleave.

KIRBY'S SPEECH.

"Editor Daily News:

"I am anxious to know why The Daily News did not print the speech made by Mr. John Kirby the other day. Can you tell me why The News happened to overlook the matter?

"Curious.

"Dayton, O., April 20."

The Daily News did not overlook the matter. There were several reasons sufficient unto The Daily News, however, why the speech was not printed. In the first place there was nothing new in it. It was the same tiresome string of platitudes and denunciation which Mr. Kirby has been delivering whenever he got a chance for several years. It was not worth the space it would have occupied.

Further, The Daily News has no sympathy with the methods of Mr. Kirby. The gentleman is a successful business man, and so long as the shoemaker sticks to his last he is a useful member of society. But should the shoemaker conceive the idea that he is fitted for something else than shoemaking, then he may make a miserable failure.

During a strike in this city several years ago, Mr. Kirby gained considerable notoriety. He was brought into prominence that might have proved a good opportunity for a strong man. But Mr. Kirby, not being a strong man, seems to have been puffed up by his notoriety, and in a vainglorious attempt to achieve fame as the great arbiter of labor and capital, or rather in an attempt to bring about a new condition of affairs in things industrial he has, in the language of the small boys, slopped over. It doesn't require much water to overflow a small tub.

There is a serious reason why The Daily News does not exploit John Kirby. It believes him to be a dangerous menace to Dayton. It believes that instead of settling any kind of labor trouble, he is only a cheap disturber, and that Dayton, if he is permitted to run wild, will sooner or later have to pay for his foolishness.

The laboring people of this city, whether union or non-union, are not thugs and murderers. Neither are they fools. Neither can they be intimidated by idle threats, nor scared into doing any man's bidding by loud talk. For a man to stand before an audience and denounce union men as thugs and murderers, and to ac-

cuse their most honorable leaders of the vilest crimes—that man is breeding a state of affairs that bodes no good.

This speech of Kirby's reads like A. C. Marshall. Marshall is by far the brighter of the two men, but his reputation is such that neither laboring man nor loafer would pay any attention to what he says. With Kirby as his mouthpiece, however, he may do a good deal of damage. Kirby and Marshall have virtually had the industrial situation in Dayton in hand for some time, and the result is that they have not benefitted anything or anybody but themselves—the one getting a little notoriety and his name frequently in print, and the other what money he could, out of the game.

If the labor unions are as much of an evil as Kirby says they are, he is still not upon the right track. If they are the most corrupt institutions in this country they can not be suppressed, nor their members intimidated by misrepresentations and threats such as Marshall forms and Kirby utters. If the unions are wrong, strong men should be reasoning with the members, showing them the error of their way. Weaklings should not be permitted to go about stirring up hatred and arraying the members against persons who are not members. There is a right way and a wrong way to go about eradicating evils, and no evil was ever eradicated by wild-eyed misrepresentations or threats.

Just take the case of Samuel Gompers, for instance. Mark Hanna thought well enough of him to consult him upon all occasions, and to make him an officer in his own organization. William McKinley thought well enough of him to say that he was one of the cleanest, ablest men this country had ever produced. Theodore Roosevelt thinks well enough of him to invite him to the White House every week, to consult with him, to sit beside him and seek his counsel. The International Peace conference, with Andrew Carnegie as President, thinks well enough of Samuel Gompers to make him Vice President under Andrew Carnegie. The laboring people of this country so love him that they would be willing to lay down their lives for him. Think you that it is a good thing for John Kirby to stand before an audience and denounce Samuel Gompers as an abettor of murder, a dishonorable creature, and so on? Think you that a man who would do such a thing can have any influence in settling labor troubles? Think you that the laboring people are such poor fools as not to feel rankling in their breasts after reading Kirby's speech a hatred that turns reason out of the mind?

The sooner the manufacturers of Dayton learn that Kirby and Marshall are a pair of disturbers, fomenting strife, en-

gendering discontent, encouraging hate, the better it will be for the manufacturers. Dayton does not want a reign of terror, and the workingmen here are not the kind of workingmen to bring about a reign of terror. But there is a limit to the endurance of even workingmen, and these violent outbursts of Kirby and Marshall will, unless checked, point to that end. And they can be checked, and

they should be checked. The Daily News is doing its part to check them by refusing to print Kirby's speech, and the manufacturers can check Marshall by cutting off the revenue he is getting out of the deal.

We trust that "Curious" will see the wisdom of The Daily News in refusing to print the address.

SCENES FROM THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP.

CHARLES DICKENS.

THE dull red glow of a wood-fire—for no lamp or candle burnt within the room—showed him a figure, seated on the hearth with its back towards him, bending over the fitful light. The attitude was that of one who sought the heat. It was, and yet was not. The stooping posture and the cowering form were there; but no hands were stretched out to meet the grateful warmth, no shrug or shiver compared its luxury with the piercing cold outside. With limbs huddled together, head bowed down, arms crossed upon the breast, and fingers tightly clinched, it rocked to and fro upon its seat without a moment's pause, accompanying the action with the mournful sound he had heard.

The heavy door had closed behind him on his entrance with a crash that made him start. The figure neither spoke, nor turned to look, nor gave in any other way the faintest sign of having heard the noise. The form was that of an old man, his white head akin in color to the molding embers upon which he gazed. He, and the failing light and dying fire, the time-worn room, the solitude, the wasted life, and gloom, were all in fellowship,—ashes and dust and ruin!

Kit tried to speak, and did pronounce some words; though what they were he scarcely knew. Still the same terrible low cry went on; still the same rocking in the chair; the same stricken figure was there, unchanged, and heedless of his presence.

He had his hand upon the latch, when something in the form—distinctly seen as one log broke and fell, and, as it fell, blazed up—arrested it. He returned to where he had stood before; advanced a pace—another—another still. Another, and he saw the face. Yes! changed as it was, he knew it well.

"Master!" he cried, stooping on one knee, and catching at his hand,—"dear master! Speak to me!"

The old man turned slowly toward him, and muttered in a hollow voice,—

"This is another! How many of these spirits there have been tonight!"

"No spirit, master; no one but your old servant. You know me now, I am sure? Miss Nell—where is she? where is she?"

"They all say that!" cried the old man. "They all ask the same question. A spirit."

"Where is she?" demanded Kit. "Oh! tell me but that,—but that, dear master!"

"She is asleep—yonder—in there."

"Thank God!"

"Ay, thank God!" returned the old man. "I have prayed to him many and many a livelong night when she has been asleep, he knows. Hark! Did she call?"

"I heard no voice."

"You did. You hear her now. Do you tell me that you don't hear *that*?"

He started up, and listened again.

"Nor that?" he cried with a triumphant smile. "Can anybody know that voice so well as I? Hush! hush!"

Motioning to him to be silent, he stole away into another chamber. After a short absence (during which he could be heard to speak in a softened, soothing tone), he returned, bearing in his hand a lamp.

"She is still asleep!" he whispered. "You were right. She did not call, unless she did so in her slumber. She has called to me in her sleep before now, sir. As I have sat by, watching, I have seen her lips move; and have known, though no sound came from them, that she spoke of me. I feared the light might dazzle her eyes and wake her: so I brought it here."

He spoke rather to himself than to the visitor; but, when he had put the lamp upon the table, he took it up, as if impelled by something momentary recollection or curiosity, and held it near his face. Then, as if forgetting his motive in the very action, he turned away, and put it down again.

"She is sleeping soundly," he said, "but no wonder. Angelhands have strewn the ground deep with snow, that the highest footstep may be lighter yet; and the very birds are dead, that they may not wake her. She used to feed them, sir. Though never so cold and hungry, the timid things would fly from us. They never flew from her!"

Again he stopped to listen, and, scarcely drawing breath, listened for a long, long time. That fancy past, he opened an old chest, took out some clothes as fondly as if they had been living things, and began to smooth and brush them with his hand.

"Why dost thou lie so idle there, dear Nell," he murmured, "when there are bright red berries out of doors waiting for thee to pluck them? Why dost thou lie so idle there, when thy little friends come creeping to the door, crying, 'Where is Nell, sweet Nell?' and sob and weep because they do not see thee? She was always gentle with children. The wildest would do her bidding. She had a tender way with them; indeed she had."

Kit had no power to speak. His eyes were filled with tears.

"Her little homely dress, her favorite," cried the old man, pressing it to his breast, and patting it with his shriveled hand. "She will miss it when she wakes. They have hid it here in sport: but she shall have it; she shall have it. I would not vex my darling for the wide world's riches. See here,—these shoes, how worn they are! She kept them to remind her of our last long journey. You see where the little feet went bare upon the ground. They told me afterwards that the stones had cut and bruised them. She never told me that. No, no, God bless her! And I have remembered since, she walked behind me, sir, that I might not see how lame she was but yet she had my hand in hers, and seemed to lead me still."

He pressed them to his lips, and, having carefully put them back again, went on communing with himself, looking wistfully from time to time towards the chamber he had lately visited.

"She was not wont to be a lie-abed; but she was well then. We must have patience. When she is well again, she will rise early, as she used to do, and ramble abroad in the healthy morning-time. I often tried to track the way she had gone; but her small footstep left no print upon the dewy ground to guide me. Who is that? Shut the door. Quick! Have we not enough to do to drive away that marble cold, and keep her warm?"

The door was indeed opened for the entrance of Mr. Garland and his friend, accompanied by two other persons. These were the schoolmaster and the bachelor. The former held a light in his hand. He had, it seemed, but gone to his own cot-

tage to replenish the exhausted lamp at the moment when Kit came up and found the old man alone.

He softened again at sight of these two friends, and, laying aside the angry manner (if to anything so feeble and so sad the term can be applied) in which he had spoken when the door opened, resumed his former seat, and subsided by little and little into the old action, and the old, dull, wandering sound.

Of the strangers he took no heed whatever. He had seen them, but appeared quite incapable of interest or curiosity. The younger brother stood apart. The bachelor drew a chair towards the old man, and sat down close beside him. After a long silence, he ventured to speak.

"Another night, and not in bed? he said softly. "I hoped you would be more mindful of your promise to me. Why do you not take some rest?"

"Sleep has left me," returned the old man. "It is all with her."

"It would pain her very much to know that you were watching thus," said the bachelor. "You would not give her pain?"

"I am not so sure of that, if it would only rouse her. She has slept so very long! And yet I am rash to say so. It is a good and happy sleep, eh?"

"Indeed it is!" returned the bachelor; "indeed, indeed, it is!"

"That's well. And the waking?" faltered the old man.

"Happy too,—happier than tongue can tell, or heart of man conceive."

They watched him as he rose and stole on tiptoe to the other chamber where the lamp had been replaced. They listened as he spoke again within its silent walls. They looked into the faces of each other; and no man's cheek was free from tears. He came back, whispering that she was still asleep, but that he thought she had moved. It was her hand, he said,—a little, a very, very little; but he was pretty sure she had moved it,—perhaps in seeking his. He had known her do that before now, though in the deepest sleep the while. And, when he had said this, he dropped into his chair again, and, clasping his hands above his head, uttered a cry never to be forgotten.

The poor schoolmaster motioned to the bachelor that he would come on the other side, and speak to him. They gently unlocked his fingers, which he had twisted in his gray hair, and pressed them in their own.

"He will hear me," said the schoolmaster, "I am sure. He will hear either me or you if we beseech him. She would at all times."

"I will hear any voice she liked to

hear," cried the old man. "I love all she loved."

"I know you do," returned the schoolmaster: "I am certain of it. Think of her; think of all the sorrows and afflictions you have shared together, of all the trials and all the peaceful pleasures you have jointly known."

"I do; I do. I think of nothing else."

"I would have you think of nothing else tonight,—of nothing but those things which will soften your heart, dear friend, and open it to old affections and old times. It is so that she would speak to you herself; and in her name it is that I speak now."

"You do well to speak softly," said the old man. "We will not wake her. I should be glad to see her eyes again, and to see her smile. There is a smile upon her young face now; but it is fixed and changeless. I would have it come and go. That shall be in Heaven's good time. We will not wake her."

"Let us not talk of her in her sleep, but as she used to be when you were journeying together, far away; as she was at home, in the old house from which you fled together; as she was in the old cheerful time," said the schoolmaster.

"She was always cheerful, very cheerful," cried the old man, looking steadfastly at him. "There was ever something mild and quiet about her, I remember, from the first; but she was of a happy nature."

"We have heard you say," pursued the schoolmaster, "that in this, and in all goodness, she was like her mother. You can think of and remember her?"

He maintained his steadfast look, but gave no answer.

"Or even one before her?" said the bachelor. "It is many years ago, and affliction makes the time longer; but you have not forgotten her whose death contributed to make this child so dear to you, even before you knew her worth, or could read her heart? Say that you could carry back your thoughts to very distant days,—to the time of your early life, when, unlike this fair flower, you did not pass your youth alone. Say that you could remember, long ago, another child who loved you dearly; you being but a child yourself. Say that you had a brother, long forgotten, long unseen, long separated from you, who now at last, in your utmost need, came back to comfort and console you"—

"To be to you what you were once to him," cried the younger, falling on his knee before him; "to repay your old affection, brother dear, by constant care, solicitude, and love; to be, at your right hand, what he has never ceased to be when oceans rolled between us; to call to

witness his unchanging truth, and mindfulness of bygone days,—whole years of desolation. Give me but one word of recognition, brother; and never—no, never in the brightest moment of our youngest days, when, poor silly boys, we thought to pass our lives together—have we been half as dear and precious to each other as we shall be from this time hence."

The old man looked from face to face, and his lips moved; but no sound came from them in reply.

"If we were knit together then," pursued the younger brother, "what will be the bond between us now! Our love and fellowship began in childhood, when life was all before us; and will be resumed when we have proved it, and are but children at the last. As many restless spirits who have hunted fortune, fame, of pleasure, through the world, retire in their decline to where they first drew breath, vainly seeking to be children once again before they die; so we, less fortunate than they in early life, but happier in its closing scenes, will set up our rest again among our boyish haunts, and going home with no hope realized that had its growth in manhood, carrying back nothing that we brought away but our old yearnings to each other, saving no fragment from the wreck of life but that which first endeared it, may be, indeed, but children as at first. And even," he added in an altered voice,—"even if what I dread to name has come to pass,—even if that be so, or is to be, (which Heaven forbid and spare us!) still, dear brother, we are not apart, and have that comfort in our great affliction."

By little and little, the old man had drawn back towards the inner chamber while these words were spoken. He pointed there as he replied with trembling lips,—

"You plot among you to wean my heart from her. You never will do that; never while I have life! I have no relative or friend but her; I never had; I never will have. She is all in all to me. It is too late to part us now."

Waving them off with his hand, and calling softly to her as he went, he stole into the room. They who were left behind drew close together, and, after a few whispered words (not unbroken by emotion, or easily uttered), followed him. They moved so gently, that their footsteps made no noise; but there were sobs from among the group, and sounds of grief and mourning.

For she was dead. There, upon her little bed, she lay at rest. The solemn stillness was no marvel now.

She was dead. No sleep so beautiful and calm, so free from trace of pain, so fair to look upon. She seemed a creature

fresh from the hand of God, and waiting for the breath of life; not one who had lived, and suffered death.

Her couch was dressed with here and there some winter-berries and green leaves gathered in a spot she had been used to favor. "When I die, put near me something that has loved the light, and had the sky above it always." Those were her words.

She was dead. Dear, gentle, patient, noble Nell was dead. Her little bird, a poor slight thing the pressure of a finger would have crushed, was stirring nimbly in its cage; and the strong heart of its child-mistress was mute and motionless forever.

Where were the traces of her early cares, her sufferings, and fatigues? All gone. Sorrow was dead indeed in her; but peace and perfect happiness were born, imaged in her tranquil beauty and profound repose.

And still her former self lay there, unaltered in this change. Yes; the old fireside had smiled upon that same sweet face; it had passed, like a dream, through haunts of misery and care. At the door of the poor schoolmaster on the summer evening, before the furnace-fire upon the cold, wet night, at the still bedside of the

dying boy, there had been the same mild, lovely look. So shall we know the angels in their majesty after death.

The old man held one languid arm in his, and had the small hand tight folded to his breast for warmth. It was the hand she had stretched out to him with her last smile,—the hand that led him on through all their wanderings. Ever and anon, he pressed it to his lips; then hugged it to his breast again, murmuring that it was warmer now; and, as he said it, he looked in agony to those who stood around, as if imploring them to help her.

She was dead, and past all help, or need of it. The ancient rooms she had seemed to fill with life, even while her own was waning fast; the garden she had tended; the eyes she had gladdened; the noiseless haunts of many a thoughtful hour; the paths she had trodden as it were but yesterday,—could know her never more.

"It is not," said the schoolmaster, as he bent down to kiss her on the cheek, and gave his tears free vent,—"it is not on earth that Heaven's justice ends. Think what earth is compared with the world to which her young spirit has winged its early flight; and say, if one deliberate wish expressed in solemn terms above this bed could call her back to life, which of us would utter it?"

LABOR'S WEAPONS.

Slowly, but surely, the world is beginning to understand the labor movement, and with that understanding comes each day a larger measure of co-operation and sympathy from the other classes.

But there are still those who can not or will not see the workingman's movement as it is intended by him to be, therefore he is periodically denounced.

He is a striker, they say. So he is, but not until he has been arrogantly told that there is nothing to arbitrate.

He boycotts. Yes, but he learned the use of that weapon from the cruel black-list—the blacklist that made him an industrial outcast, that denied him the right to be the breadwinner and sent him away from his home with the wail of his child and the sobs of his wife breaking his heart.

The striker is but a rebel. The rebel has been the torch-bearer of civilization since man realized he had a soul.—Atlanta Constitution.

TOO MUCH TALK.

Undoubtedly a great part of the mischief which has cursed the world since the beginning has been done by too much talking. Where no fuel is, the fire soon goes out. Where no tale bearer is, the strife soon ceaseth. Had our first parent, old Mother Eve, not paused to parley with the serpent, paradise would have never been lost, and thenceforth all through history, idle words have been among the agencies which have turned the fate of nations. A word once spoken can never be recalled. Alas for the times when men and women bewail themselves in bitterness of spirit over the careless word scarce meant to be unkind which had so much better be left unsaid.

There are many cruel battles in which the weapons are "looks like daggers and words like blows" duels in which there is no bloodshed, but the wounds of which are not to be healed by any amount of subsequent remorse or repentance.

There is much truth in the saying that a strong character never is entirely understood, and therefore, it often is possible for those who are lacking in strength to gain credit therefor by a judicious amount of reserve. It is a mistake to be too communicative, even to one's intimates. Confidence to strangers is idiocy. To unravel one's self, as it were, is to explain one's personal magnetism.—Stronghold.

HOW IS YOUR BACKBONE?

IT IS a bad thing to have a weak back. All the nerves of the body, nearly, have their starting place along the spine. A good share of the muscles are in some way or other hinged to the backbone. Whatever hurts the back, hurts the whole body. From blows in the breast, or upon almost any other part of the body one may recover, but a severe blow anywhere upon the back will put a man out of the fight quickly.

Backbone seems to be missing in a great many people in these days. "I do hate to say 'No.'" Did you ever hear men say that? Thousands of young men go down to ruin, just because they are asked to do what they know to be wrong and have not the backbone to say "Excuse me."

A good share of the crookedness in business comes just that way. Somebody was urged to do a mean thing, and had not the manhood to say, "Get out!" In days to come, when exposure stares them in the face, these weaklings go out and hang themselves or go by the pistol route rather than have it known that they have weak backs.

But how we honor the man with the strong backbone! We get up close to him and try to absorb some of the fire that makes him such a power. We feel the inspiration of his life and for a time the world thinks we ourselves are wonderful men, just because we are absorbing a bit of moral strength from the giant at the head of the procession.

Who are the men that are carrying this nation on their shoulders today?

Men with backbone. Is there any business any where that is running unless somewhere there are a few brave souls that have plenty of faith and lots of backbone? You can think of none. You never will. Backbone makes the world move.

There is no place in the world for the man that is weak in the back. There is plenty of room for him in the earth, but none on it.

But what if a man is naturally weak as to the spinal column? Then let him make the most of what he has and work hard for more. It is the man that hath that shall have more. Small though the portion may be at the beginning, the store may be enlarged by cultivation. The man that is willing to stiffen up the backbone he has with straps and braces to steady him till he gains more, will surely see that the promise is being verified to him. One good solid "No" in the day of temptation is worth a thousand weak "I'd like to accommodate you!"

Heaven help the man that says, "I can't help it. I want to be a good fellow. I hate to make my chums feel bad by refusing. So I keep in with them!"

Being a good fellow lays the train which will one day blow the best meaning man sky high. There is nothing in heaven or on earth for the man that stakes his all on being a good fellow.

Backbone, young man! Backbone is the thing to cultivate. All the best things of life are ready for the man who has it. Nothing for the one who lacks it.—Spare Moments.

"MAKING GOOD."

The fellow who hurries and worries and flurries,
And rushes and gushes and rants;
Who chases and races through all public places,
With his eyes ever on the main chance,
Will blunder, then wonder when he has gone under,
Why he all the shocks never stood.
But he failed, for he paled and he shivered and quailed,
When it came to the test—"Making good."

The halter and trimmer may catch a faint glimmer
Of smiles and of wiles of Dame Chance.
In his dreaming and scheming may catch a faint gleaming,
Of a goal that his eyes will entrance.

But he pales and he quails, and his energy fails,
And he couldn't win out if he would;
For he sighs and he cries at the vanishing prize,
When it comes to the test—"Making Good."

The fellow who's ready and sturdy and steady;
Who hustles and rustles and learns;
Acts honestly, fairly, uprightly and squarely—
That fellow success quickly earns.
Let him win it—that minute he will be strictly in it,
And meet every test as he should.
He will work like a Turk, and a duty ne'er shirk,
And go right ahead "Making good."
—The Commoner.

HOW THEY REASON.

There are men outside the ranks of organized labor who refuse to join, because, as they say, "they want to work where they will, when they want to, as long as they want to, and for what they want to." They greatly prize their independence. Some of these men are accepting the hours and wages created by organized labor without assisting in any way to further the cause of organized labor. The man who insists that he will not join a labor union because he wants to work where, when, as long and for what he wants to, is a joker. Where can a man be found who can do it? A man who is compelled to earn his living by hard work must accept work when and where and on such terms as he can secure it. His boasted inde-

pence is a mere wordy vapor. Organized with his fellows, he has an opportunity to have a say regarding his own labor, but alone he is as helpless as a sapling on a moor in a tempest. Many a good man outside of organized labor clings to this idea of personal independence (which he believes he would lose if he joined a union) and is used by his brainier fellow man, who urges this idea upon him continually. It is impossible to understand this type of man, but it is difficult to get an angle on a man who will take a fellow worker's place when offered a premium to do so, in order to starve his fellow into submission. No lower animal hunts of its own kinds.—Gray's Harbor Post.

ADVANCE.

Stay not too long in curious thought,
Plunge into act and know
That fate, with lesser doubt is fraught
Than your first trepidations show;
Stay not near the friendly shore.
Trust all upon the instant's throw.
Boldly strike out, and more and more

The waves will calm, the mild winds
blow,
Lo! yonder is the isle in sight
Whither your better hopes would go,
And farther, rising from the night,
New peaks within the new sun's glow!
—L. J. Block, in Ohio State Journal.

LIFE.

We are born; we laugh; we weep;
We love; we droop; we die.
Ah! wherefore do we laugh or weep?
Why do we live or die?
Who knows that secret deep?
Alas, not I!

Why doth the violet spring,
Unseen by human eye?
Why do the radiant seasons bring
Sweet thoughts that quickly fly?

Why do our fond hearts cling
To things that die?

We toil—through pain and wrong;
We fight—and fly;
We love; we lose; and then, ere long,
Stone dead we lie.
O life! is all thy song
"Endure and—die?"
—Byron Waller Proctor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Local Union No. 21.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As our Local has not had a line in the WORKER for some time, owing to sickness of Bro. Mack our press secretary, I have been elected to write and to let the brothers of other locals know how we are getting along. Work around here is very slack, none of the companies are doing any new work, mostly repairing and only such repairing as is absolutely necessary, they all have laid off men lately and there are no signs that there will be anything doing for some time to come. What the real reasons are I cannot tell, but the fact remains that good deal of work should be done by the companies to their antiquated systems which they operate now and which are a menace to public safety and a disgrace to a city beautiful. When I write about the menace I mean the many miles of death wires and thousands of pushguy's which have done service once and are left hanging until they break by age and their own weight across high tension wires: result, see daily papers. It is a disgrace and eyesore to the architect, the painter, the sculptor or to any intelligent man to see miles of poles, black and slimy with the dirt and dust of years and with cross arms pointing three ways to heaven, line our streets and mar the effect which the above mechanics and others tried to produce that is to make this city of brotherly love as beautiful as any, but I suppose it will be years before this will happen.

The strike against the Bell is in its tenth month now and is still on, good many of the boys have left the city and the few that are left will do so at the earliest opportunity. We have had but few desertions of practical men, mostly fellows who had no confidence in themselves or who could not make a living at anything else. Good many of the brothers have branched out into new trades and several of them have assured me that they have given up linework for good as they can make just as much money at their new avocations as they did at line-work with less risk to life and limb.

It has been decided by some of the boys to make another effort to see if the strike cannot be settled, as there had been rumors lately that the company would meet some of its former employees with a view of settling the misunderstanding.

In the meantime I would not advise any of the brothers to come here as there is really nothing doing and we have our hands full caring for the brothers who are here.

Hoping to be able to write the brothers better news next month, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

THEO. H. WOTOCHEK.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 1, 1907.

Local Union No. 23.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The American Bell Telephone Co. and the Independent Telephone Co. of St. Paul, Minn., are discharging all union linemen excepting those they can induce to drop their card. They have also reduced the wages going so far as to circulate a printed circular stating that first class linemen will receive a wage of fifty to sixty dollars a month.

Toll line crews are being paid at the rate of twenty-five to thirty-five dollars per month for ten hours per day.

They also contemplate in the near future working all men ten hours per day on the job. Installers are receiving a wage of twenty to forty dollars per month. This with ten hours of labor may look like a good proposition to the average telephone employee, especially when considering that you must destroy your card in order to hold your job.

Trusting this will appear in the next issue of the WORKER, I am,

Yours fraternally,

WM. E. CRONQUIST,

Recording Secretary.

St. Paul, Minn., April 9, 1907.

Local Union No. 24.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It has been some time since the WORKER has had anything regarding the conditions in this part of the country. Since our friendly little engagement with the employers a year ago conditions, for a true union man, have been going from bad to worse. We had a lot of foremen and straw bosses with weak intellects, who, by tearing up their cards, were permitted by the companies, to scab.

The Bell have men working for \$45 and \$50 per month, 9 hours per day, on the job, and carry their dinners with them. We are expecting, when it gets warmer, to have to buy blankets and sleep on the job.

The Tri-State is better to the men they have, giving practically the same as last year, but the home guards not already on stand little show of getting in on this.

Any card man coming this way is sure of getting something, such as it is, in preference to men here on the ground. There should be a lot of work this spring but cannot say what it will be until later. The Soo. intends to send out a crew in the near future and this ought to be a fair thing as they want good work done. There is some outside influence at work for every scab in the State of Iowa with all the young boys who ever saw a picture of a pole are coming here in twos and gangs of seven or eight expecting that they have nothing to do but select the job that suits them best and be put at the head of the pay roll. They may get it, but those on the ground fail to see and cannot understand where they are getting the dope from.

We understand that the W. U. boys are to get an increase of 10 per cent the first of the month, the operators getting theirs last month.

Some of the boys working for the North American were paid off last time at the rate of single time for Sunday instead of double as has been the rule heretofore. This must have been done through error as the company is in connection with the Postal Telegraph which has always been fair.

The General Electric is trying to get a new franchise from the city still they are coming to the front with an application blank to be signed that is certainly the limit. You have to give a record of your ancestors with character, commencing where Darwin leaves off and including your offspring; you also promise to continue in their employ regardless of conditions until they get through with you. There are many and various requests that you are to promise to obey, but there are no promises on the first part.

Trusting that conditions will be better and everybody working before you get this, I will close for this time.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 15, 1907.

Local Union No. 27.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, as the sun is commencing to get high and shine on both sides of the fence, I also think it is about time to get another letter in our worthy journal and trust the brothers will feel satisfied and not live under the impression that the Press Secretary has been kidnapped or strayed to parts unknown as some of the brothers thought so, I will ask to be excused for neglecting to get a letter in the WORKER the past two months.

Well, work around this section of the

Universe seems to be at a stand still, but will say there is lots of work to do but nobody knows when the companies expect to commence to do it.

Bro. McDord has bettered his condition by accepting a position with the B. & O. Electrical Dept. Success to you Mac. Several good card brothers has paid us a visit in the past two months, amongst them were Bros. Jack Goodwin and J. Welch. The brothers felt very sorry to hear of the death of Wm. McKinstry—falling off a pole in Mahanay City, Pa. Bro. D. Hill and Bro. H. Hill have both started in the saloon business. The brothers extend a hearty welcome to all good card men to call around and see them. I am still proud to say that we are still adding a new light to our circuit every now and then. There seems to be inquiries every day as to when they expect to start the electrical work on the trolley job between Baltimore and Washington. Well at present nobody seems to know but as soon as they do, I'll let the brothers know through our WORKER. They are only laying the road bed and doing the bridge work at the present time.

Well, as I don't want to take up too much space in the WORKER with my letter and trust the editor will find a place for it instead of the waste basket, but before closing I will say Hello to the old war horse, H. T. Morgan of L. U. 263, and the same to Wm. Hall, at present working in Butte, Montana, but was sorry to hear of you losing your dearest friend in the world—your mother and father.

Now I wish success to all struggling sister locals in their struggle of bettering conditions and all members of the I. B. E. W.. I remain,

Yours fraternally,
Wm. H. GREEN,
Press Secretary.

Baltimore, Md., April 22, 1907.

Local Union No. 37.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

On assuming my new position, with permission on one of your valuable pages I will attempt to enlighten the Brothers what the Connecticut District Council is doing and trying to accomplish.

We think it would be well for possibly all states to form Councils, as working conditions vary in the several states. Another thing too, which is possibly a secondary consideration, it would be the elimination of much expense as is frequently seen, for instance in the New England District Council you will see a number of locals without any representation.

A serious proposition confronts us and that is the raising of money. A short time ago the different locals throughout this state subscribed \$125.00 by assessing

different ones in proportion to their membership.

The results accomplished with this small amount of money was most gratifying. A special organizer from our own ranks was put into the field in one of the hardest localities in the state, and their delegate present at the meeting Sunday, said the membership of his Local was eighty.

It appeals to us if part of the per capita paid, was paid into a state fund for the maintaining of a state business agent, also to take up special organizing in conjunction with his other duties. Hoping to hear from the other State Councils, if there are any in existence through your columns, I remain,

Fraternally yours,
JOHN J. McNAMARA.
Press Sec. Conn. State Council.

Local Union No. 61.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The interest displayed by the individual member as an organizer cannot be better shown than by the present numerical strength of No. 61, and it is entirely due to the fact that every member during the last six months has taken upon himself the duty to enquire of the man working by the side of him was a union man or not, and if not has always been thoroughly prepared with logical argument to explain to him the advisability of being connected with the I. B. E. W.

In September, 1906 the total membership was about 240 and April 1907, 490, the difference being entirely composed of delinquents and men who had never been connected with organized labor, showing that the consistent members arguments must have been very plausible and that they did not forget their duty as union men by putting forth the cause of unionism.

A very noticeable feature existing in Los Angeles labor circles and I presume it exists in other localities is the lack of interest shown by the Trades Unionists meaning (the man that pays dues) who fails to tell his fellow workman that he is a member of a labor organization, but is only too eager to inform him of his affiliation with a fraternal body, forgetting that if it were not for the existence of labor bodies he would be minus the amount necessary to make him such an enthusiastic organizer for the fraternal body he belongs to.

The business affairs of local unions should also be run upon the same basis as those of fraternal bodies "strictly business" and I have no doubt that if the sentiment which so often governs the union man for his fellow brother behind in dues who is in distress was eliminated we should have better union men and

naturally better conditions for the members would then take an interest in its laws and if not narrow minded would abide by them, recognizing that it was for his own advancement.

Los Angeles is considered by authorities on the subject as one of the worst organized spots in America and organizers innumerable will not contest to point with the natural results that wages are low and living high, some company's paying as low as \$3.00 per 10 hours for linework.

As inducements for the non-unionist in the electrical trade circulates literature and offers unusual sick benefits while for its members entertainments and baseball the last named being for the purpose of bringing our members close together and also cementing the ties of friendship with other labor organizations for they all have their teams and consider it in the same light as ourselves that the trophy is not the cup put up by our labor paper, but harmony, friendship and the desire to know each other better.

The Labor Temple, a seven story building which Los Angeles unionists are looking forward to with pride will be started the 1st of May and its presence alone we expect without the added enthusiasm which it will excite in our breasts will further strengthen our members in addition to making us more compact.

If we had the same ideal conditions as we have climate, we would certainly not be selfish enough to suggest that the traveling brother keep away for we thoroughly believe in the survival of the fittest, but there are apparently so many here that appear fit that the remark that there is always room for one more appears misquoted for the companies are laying men off every day. Wishing all brothers success, I am

Fraternally yours,
HARRY WARNER.

Local Union No. 73.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As every craft in the building trades of Spokane (the insidemen, wiremen of the I. B. E. W. included), are asking for an increase of wages on April and May 1st, and as there always is a possibility of trouble at such times, we take this means of notifying your Local and all members of the Brotherhood to have all insidemen stay away from Spokane. Should there be any of your members who wish to come here have them send their addresses to our Secretary, Box 635, and after our wage question is settled, the prospects are that we will need a number of good men. We will then advise all wishing to come here of conditions and the outcome of our scale. On or about May 1st, 1906, this Local went on strike against the Washington Water Power Co., taking out 65 brothers, this strike is still

on and we have not lost a single man. The Home Telephone Co. is also unfair to the Brotherhood all over the Northwest. The brothers will please keep these companies in mind. Nevertheless good linemen have been in demand and a good lineman can always get on with fair people here. Phone men \$3.50, 8-hours; power men \$4.00, 9-hours. The only conditions are that he must have a card with him and be able to do the work.

We have this one more request to make of your Local, that your Secretary read this notice before your Local for at least three meetings.

With best wishes to your Local and the Brotherhood, we are,

Yours fraternally,
J. F. BROWNELL, President.
A. T. SHORTLEY, Secretary.

Local Union No. 80.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Since the last letter from this Local in the journal, nearly all our members found employment at the Exposition grounds, and, there are very few men idle at present, and work will last until about the 1st of May, when everything will be completed and a great number of the traveling members will be on their way home.

The conditions in Norfolk are very bad. Open shop. You know what that means, and there is little chance of it being settled very soon.

At the navy yard here, there was a clean sweep and we have about 3 or 4 members over there which leaves us in a very bad shape.

There has been no overtime here and we who came here, are all disappointed, and glad to get straight time and I think we will all go away with less money than we came here with.

The Exposition will be opened by the time this letter reaches the members and it is going to be a grand naval and military show, well worth visiting and hope that quite a number of our Brotherhood will be able to attend, as it will also afford a trip to the sea side and well. With best wishes.

Yours fraternally,
G. W. KENDALL, JR.
Press Secretary.

Local Union No. 92.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Some time ago our worthy Grand President issued an appeal to all members of the International Brotherhood for an individual voluntary contribution for the purpose of establishing a nucleus to a defense fund. The object of this defense fund was clearly stated in the Grand Presidents letter.

Every member of Local 92 present at meetings when appeal was read seemed to realize the immediate benefits which would accrue from placing in the hands of our brotherhood a fund for no other purpose than that of helping those of our brothers fight for not alone their rights, but our rights as well.

A hard fought battle won in one locality makes the battle easier of success in another territory. There is nothing which has more of a moral influence on the actions of our opponents than a well filled treasury.

Realizing these facts Local No. 92 raised their dues from 90c to \$1.00 per month. The extra 10c to be sent to the General Office each month for the defense fund.

Our first installment was sent in for the last quarter of 1906 and on receipt of same our Grand President and Grand Secretary addressed our local in very complimentary terms for which our boys feel justly proud. I would very much like to hear of every local in our brotherhood inaugurate some such a scheme for there is nothing more beneficial to an organization of our character than high dues and a full treasury. A few single figures will show what can be done with just 10c per month from every member in our glorious brotherhood.

There must be nearly 35,000 members, possibly more, but we will take that figure. Ten cents from each member for 12 months, \$1.20; for 35,000 members, \$42,000, which should make a very neat little amount to throw into an infested district if used judiciously.

The prospects for any extensive work around these parts does not look very bright. The Bell and the city have not come to any definite agreement as yet relative to placing the wires underground.

The telephone men here are watching with interest the purchase of the United States Telephone Company by the Bell interests. The validity of the sale will probably have been decided by the attorney general before the appearance of this letter. Which ever way it goes will, it is believed, have a bearing upon the future work in this district.

Our lads are much pleased over the fact of the Electrical Workers of Olean, N. Y. getting in line again. This was accomplished through the hard work of our district organizer, Bro. Louis Donnelly. It appears to me there is no reason why a flourishing Local can not live in Olean, if every one of the members stand for loyalty and harmony.

They certainly have our best wishes and we pray that they may not fall into the rut they did before.

I would like to suggest that there is another town in this district which re-

quires some attention and that is Corn-ing. There are enough men working there at the business who if they were corralled ought to make a nice little Local.

HARRY S. BROWN,
Press Secretary.
Hornell, N. Y., April 3, 1907.

Local Union No. 95.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Since becoming a member of Local No. 95, I have never seen it represented by a letter in the columns of the WORKER. Upon reminding ourselves of this fact, I of course, was the one that should be immediately elected and harnessed into the office of Press Secretary.

It seems rather difficult to make the start, but I trust that it may prove to be a pleasure after becoming more familiar with the requirements and duties of the position. Likewise, it is sometimes hard for the unorganized workman to weigh his interests in the balance of Brotherhood and Justice, but after he decides to do so, and once becomes a worker in the ranks of Organized Labor, and he is of manly principal, he will continue to strive for Labor's interest, and his interest so long as he is a wage-earner. "Organization is the only Salvation for the wage-earner."

Regardless of the strike on with the Missouri and Kansas or Bell Telephone Company, over the entire district of Missouri and Kansas, for almost a year now, our Local is steadily growing and interest is becoming more expressive in every line of business. We are having larger attendance at meetings; our financial conditions are better; our committees accomplish better results and our members work more harmoniously and in earnest than ever before.

Local No. 95, is doing its best, as an individual striving for the upbuilding of our Brotherhood, and the mark of our ambition and aim is Victory!

Wishing success to Unionism and the I. B. E. W., I remain,

Yours fraternally,
G. P. GARRETT,
Press Secretary.

Joplin, Mo., April 24, 1907.

Local Union No. 96.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a line from Local Union No. 96 to let you and the Brotherhood know that we are still doing business every Monday night at the same old "wharf."

The situation has not changed to any great extent since last letter.

We have gained one more closed shop, and that is Mr. Peter V. Latour's. Local No. 96 and Mr. Latour arrived at a satis-

factory agreement a day or two after sending my last letter, which contained his name, as proprietor of an unfair shop, and to make matters worse the letter laid in the office a month and was not printed till March; so, unfortunately, almost two months after Mr. Latour "got right" our official journal arrived in Worcester saying he was unfair.

Mr. Latour requested an explanation, and is satisfied that it was simply *hard luck*. But it shows, brothers, that the contractors read the WORKER "once in a while" also.

Page Electric Co., Plummer, Ham & Richardson, Delta Electric Co., Worcester Electric Contract Co. and George L. Brigham are still unfair.

There is a new company in town, that I have been to see the manager of repeatedly, but I can't come to any agreement with him. That is the Southgate Electric Co., which is practically unfair.

The outlook today is better than at any time since the strike started (eight months), most of the boys are working and business in fair shops is picking up.

But I wish the union men of the east, and especially of *this* district would bear in mind the fact that we don't need any outside help in doing this work.

We have had men with good cards in their pockets, blow into Worcester and go to work for "scab" shops. Chase them up and explain matters and they tell you they did not know there was trouble; and some of the cards issued less than fifty miles from Worcester, too. I tell you brothers, it is a shame.

Every card electrician in the northeastern states should know that there is a strike on in Worcester.

We have been trying to drill it into them for eight months and we expected better results.

Several strike-breakers have left town since the warm weather, and I know of several more that will go soon; some of them came here not knowing of the trouble and could not see their way clear to leave in the winter.

We expect to celebrate a closed shop victory by the Fourth of July. A couple of shops are wavering now. Watch them drop.

Time's up and so is space (if you gave this paper away, I would write more, Bro. Collins) and I will now close with best wishes to the I. B. E. W.

Yours fraternally,
GEO. H. MILLER,
Recording Secretary.

Worcester, Mass., April 27, 1907.

Local Union No. 109.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I would like to whisper to you and all brothers, that we are still here, but not

very strong. Why? Well, I don't like to tell it, but as you want to know, it is up to me.

To begin with, it is the same old story, the members are negligent in regard to our meeting nights. They each and every one want the measley 25 cents advance of pay we asked for and got, but when it comes to standing by the Local and acting a members part, and assist in the work that a few are compelled to do, no they are at home or have other engagements.

You, of course find it that way most every where to an extent, but that does not justify anyone to stay away. Why a man that claims to be a man, will do such, I am at a loss to say.

Here is another proposition. When a man or set of men ask for an increase of pay, and gets it, why they shirk and try to beat the employer is more than I can see, not that I want any one to over tax his physical powers, far from it, but I do and always will think that he should give a fair days labor in return. In that way I believe that there would be less strikes and lockouts as the moneyed man would see that we not only wanted what is rightfully our own, but are willing to act a man when we are treated as such.

Here is another. How is it that some members get in bad standing in one Local and go away, and bob up later with a good paid up card? There is something wrong somewhere. If all the brothers and ex-brothers would read our Constitution, pay their bills, and be men, there would not be anyone advertised as is the following:

On the 14th of March last, ex-brother Harry Dodge came in to Davenport, Iowa, without money and without tools. Bro. Red Stephens loaned him tools and put him to work with the understanding that he square up his card. He agreed to do so. Mr. Jones, the general foreman stood for his board (he having worked with Dodge elsewhere), and the Local allowed him to work, believing he would pay up and deposit his card. He worked 10 days and quit, got his money, jumped his boardbill of \$10.25.

Do you, brother, or anyone else think that right, and I ask all brothers to hand it to Harry Dodge in large bunches when he comes your way. I hope, and I guess he (Dodge) will see this, so he will know that he can not go where there is a Local but what will know of his dirty trick.

Such as that makes it hard on brothers that are all right, and does not benefit at all the man that does the act.

Work here is none too good, but all members I believe are working and a few travelers also; but, should you come this way be sure your card is up, if it is not there will be nothing for you. If any

rush for linemen are needed around here, yours truly will tell you. I am not telling this to keep you away, but these are facts. We like to see travelers now and then.

If Kid Holcombe sees this he will please write to 1112 12th street, Rock Island, Ill.

Brothers, stick by your Local. Attend the meetings, do your part of the work, get right in with both feet just as if it all depended on yourself. Don't be afraid.

Wishing success to all, I am,

Fraternally yours,

N. TERRELL,

Press Secretary.

Rock Island, Ill., April 26, 1907.

Local Union No. 112.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

After looking in several of the WORKERS I do not find any letter from Local No. 112, so I will take it upon myself as a member of No. 112 to write a few lines which I hope will escape the waste basket. As a member of Local No. 112, I really feel ashamed that we have neglected to appear in the correspondence columns. At our next meeting I will ride 70 or 80 miles to see especially about a press secretary. I am now working for the W. U. Tel. Co., about 70 miles from Local No. 112, but am very, very proud to say that we are a solid I. B. E. W. gang always looking out for the welfare of the I. B. E. W. wherever we may go. We initiated one new man in our gang last night and the ride of 70 miles and staying up all night looks like nothing by the side of our Local attendance. I want to say that Bro. C. T. Collins of Local No. 428, of Bakersfield, Calif, is very much of a poet and let him keep up the good work.

In behalf of the gang, we remain,

Yours forever,

J. T. COLLINS,

Secretary.

Irvington, Ky., April 24, 1907.

Local Union No. 155.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 155 is still doing business at the old stand, and taking in a new member every meeting night or so.

We are rejoicing over our membership as it is the largest we have ever had and every one is up to date. At present we have about eighty members, and all working for the good of the Order.

Brothers Reynolds and Walter have been elected as delegates to attend the D. C. which has a meeting at Dallas, Tex., April 8th and 9th, and it is hoped they will do themselves and the Local justice as they always do their best.

Local No. 456 called on us last meeting

to witness the initiation of a new member. You were welcome, boys, come again.

Bro. J. C. Clarke met with an accident a few days ago, by getting his foot hurt while loading some trolley feeder, but is on the works again with his happy smile.

Bro. S. B. Hays, our genial vice president, has left us for California. Treat him right boys, as he is true blue.

Wishing the I. B. success, I will close the circuit.

Yours fraternally,
"DEACON."

Oklahoma City, Okla., March 30, 1907.

Local Union No. 162.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Our Press Secretary has not been up for a couple of weeks so I guess I will write a few lines as I know a number of the brothers are waiting to learn what the new company is doing here.

The Union Consolidated Company has the work in charge and already has a store room, and the way the "long hardless," spoons, axes, etc., are coming in it looks like work, and plenty of it, but if any brother is thinking of coming here to work for them, let him be sure the yellow sticker is in his due book and secure a green card before he starts, for we are going to make this the best job in the 6th District.

We have a fine contract with all parties concerned and intend to live up to our share of it to the very letter.

Probably there will not be much doing before the 1st of May, though some of the splicers will get busy before that.

There is a good deal of conduit on the ground and lots more coming.

The attendance at meetings is dropping off. Say! There is a large, juicy, and permanent vote of thanks for the man who will suggest a means of inducing the membership to turn out.

I say induce, advisedly, for when you force them to come there is no pleasure, neither to themselves nor to the balance.

Our District Council has just finished its Second Annual Convention and there is one rather significant fact connected with it.

One year ago there were 7 delegates and in the convention just passed there were 20.

As this is a party line I guess I will cut out and give the rest a chance.

W. C. GOOLD, Financial Sec.

Local Union No. 164.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Now that you have really recognized Local Union No. 164 as being in the fold by printing their first letter for years in

the "WORKER," I will again impose on your good nature.

I have heard numerous remarks concerning the previous one which were not very complimentary to the writer. In answer to all I will say that I am not from Missouri; all the kickers have to do is to tell me and I will place them in the position of a Missourian, I will show them.

It is true that Local 164 was up against it but the enemy is gradually retreating. If any of you brothers who are only just looking on will just put your shoulder to the wheel there will not be a better Local in the Brotherhood.

The situation in and around New York as far as the Brotherhood is concerned is settled entirely satisfactory from our point of view. I will admit that there are many strange but old familiar faces in our meetings. There is a grand chance for all to get together and get the proper recognition as Electrical Workers which we are entitled to. Don't expect politicians to do it for you. You must do it yourselves.

We had the pleasure of a visit from our Grand President at our last meeting and though suffering from a severe cold his remarks were instructing and very interesting. The members of No. 164 know that he has worked hard for the Brotherhood while here and those of us who know him are glad to see that he is still wearing the same size hat and the members of No. 164 wish him success at all times.

In reading over a pamphlet issued by Local No. 6 of San Francisco entitled "True Statement of Facts," in my estimation the Brother who gave that title to it will never be held accountable when he is called to his happy hunting ground for any "fibbs" he may have included in same. There are the true facts of the injustice done our sister local laid bare. I have an apology to offer No. 6 in behalf of Local No. 164, that an ex-member of No. 164, Charles Roggerman, who took out a traveling card, and possibly another, is now scabbing it in San Francisco against No. 6, but there is truth in the old saying "Chickens come home to roost." This is a matter which should interest every local in the Brotherhood, and it seems very strange to me that Locals on International organizations seated in a Building Trades Council will vote to unseat a local of another International organization and not expect a come back. Are we going to sit idly by and say nothing? Has not each local got the power to communicate with each International body whose locals were the instigators of this crime and put it to them in plain English, the injustice done by a local of theirs in San Francisco in voting to unseat a local from the B. T. C. and seating a lot of renegades and strike-

breakers who claim to be electrical workers? We would request that Secretaries send us as soon as possible all information he can regarding any members who, he thinks, come from this vicinity.

The situation in Hudson County at present seems very good and while I would not advise Brotherhood men to travel this way, there is no reason why good men cannot make out all right during summer months. Wishing all locals in the Brotherhood success, I am

Yours fraternally,
W. P. CLEARY.
Local No. 164, Jersey City, N. J.

Local Union No. 198.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it has been some time since you have heard from us I thought I would let you know we are still doing business here. The Bell company has just completed a \$250,000.00 job here and they are tearing down all the old stuff. When that is finished the crew will leave for Burlington, which is going to rebuild. Local 198 is holding the line fairly well, all the boys are working with prospects for a good summer and our membership is slowly increasing. The inside men are meeting with some trouble with the gas fitters, owing to jurisdiction lines regarding the hanging of combination fixtures and the Local Building Trades has declared against us, but we have not conceded and don't intend to give up this work if it take a lifetime. However we intend to take the matter up with the federation, where we think it will be adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned. Delegate Jno. Krahf has returned from the District Convention at Waterloo and reports a very enthusiastic meeting and everything looks well for the craft all over this District. The next convention will be left to referendum vote between Sioux City and Des Moines.

Brother H. Buckley and George Black, of 544 and 372, also King Dodo have deposited cards here. I see by the WORKER that Tex Strahl is in Idaho. I presume is organizing the Shoshone Indians into a floating gang. We have a letter here for Russell Kilgore, which will be forwarded to his address. I will state that there is a big strike on here of the carpenters and Joiners. 1000 men out and as the chief of police carries a card a stranger without the goods will be drilled across the bridge or get a pass to Siberia. This is all for the present with best wishes to Trenton, New Jersey, I remain,

Yours truly,
T. J., Press Sec.

Local Union No. 213.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I am afraid I am late this month, but if it is possible to get this in I would be

very pleased to see it inserted. However, we are getting along fine adding new lights to our circuit every meeting. I am sorry to say we have lost a bright light and a good worker for the cause in the person of Bro. C. A. MacDougal, who has left here for San Francisco. Our worthy president is still hopping round as the result of his fall last July 4. He has sued the company for \$5,000.00 and he has been given judgment for \$2,000.00, but the company have appealed against the decision, there he would not get a decision before the end of the year and like-ly not then as the law courts are not for the working man, however, I hope he will get the money OK as he needs the dough. I think this is about all this time, with best wishes to all the brothers, I am

Fraternally yours,
GEO. JENKINS.

Local Union No. 221.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local 221 is doing fine at this time. Everything is looking prosperous for the linemen at present.

The Guffy Oil company has begun work on their lines to the Indiana Territory, and have employed between fifteen and twenty linemen, which took about all the available linemen in this vicinity. It is expected that the Texas company will also begin work on their lines to the territory in a few days, and with what other work that will be done, we expect work to be plentiful this summer.

The convention of the Sixth District met in Dallas the 8th and 9th of April. Brother Dan Rather represented 221 at the convention. Brother Rather returned from the Convention very much enthused over the work that was done by the Convention. We think it will result in much good to this district.

The South Texas Telephone company is doing some new work at Port Arthur, Texas. They are rebuilding and enlarging their exchange, but this job will not last very long.

Our Local is steadily pressing forward, and taking in new members at almost every meeting. All members are well and working at this time. All things considered, we feel that we are getting along splendid.

Floater are becoming very scarce in this part of the country just now.

Yours fraternally,
ROBT. RAMEY.
Financial and Press Secretary.

Local Union No. 253.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 253 of Cedar Rapids is still on earth, although you don't hear from us very often. Work was a little bit

slack here for inside men this winter, but we are looking for a rushing summer, but the outside men have all kept busy. We are affiliated with the S. B. L. A. here and all of the trades affiliated ask for the 8-hour day and a good many of them ask for more money and the contractors all took it good natured. The inside wiremen are getting \$3.00 and \$3.50 for eight hours, helpers from \$1.00 to \$2.00 for eight hours. The outside men have got a demand in but we don't know as yet how they will come out. They are asking \$3.00 and \$3.50 for linemen and \$4.50 for cablemen, but their demands call nine hours.

We are taking in new members every meeting. The C. R. F. of L. are pushing a big celebration to be held in C. R. Labor day and we will try and show all visiting brothers a good time. Yours as ever, and a jolly bunch.

FRED THOMAS, R. S.

Local Union No. 258.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

On March 1st we presented an agreement asking for \$3.00 per day of nine hours to the Narragansett Electric Lighting Co., Rhode Island Street Railway Co., Parrotucket Electric Lighting Co. and Providence Telephone Co. We requested an answer by April 1st, on that date all but the latter company refused to consider our demands. The Telephone Co. informed our committee that they could give a reply on or about April 8, claiming that owing to pressure of business they were unable to give the matter any attention until that time, we were also assured by officials of the company that a satisfactory arrangement to all concerned would then be reached. On April 9th we were informed by the Telephone Company that they would concede nothing. The other companies took the same stand and we accordingly voted to strike. We have now been out three weeks and with one exception no overtures for a settlement have been made on either side. The R. I. company sent for a committee and agreed to grant the men an increase of 25 cents per day and free transportation over its lines at all times, the hours to be regulated (to suit conditions) by the foreman, which were promised to be satisfactory to the men. The concessions granted by the R. I. Co. were considered fair and the men allowed to return to work. After having worked five days the men found that the conditions as to hours were no better than before the strike. This was freely commented on by the other companies and they pointed out that if the R. I. company's men were willing to go back and work a 10-hour day the other linemen were not justified in holding out for 9-hour day. A committee waited on the foreman of the R. I. company re-

questing that the difficulty be adjusted, but as he declared his lack of authority to do so, the men were again called out. One or two old time foremen, a few ground hands, and several trimmers and spare motor men are about all the help the companies can secure, the strike being rough and effective. Quite a number of our men have left town and secured positions in other cities. There are no men of any account coming here, and every indication points to an unqualified victory for our men. We are making a request for financial assistance from the various locals throughout the Brotherhood. Any contributions will be greatly received and acknowledged in our official Journal.

Brothers will please take notice and have all linemen seeking work to keep away from Providence until this trouble is settled.

Yours fraternally,

A. P. BARRY.
Press Sec.

Local Union No. 263.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I would like to have a few words to say in the April WORKER to let the Brotherhood know that Local Union 263 of Shampokin, Pa. is still existing, but we are up against it, for the most of our brothers are out of town, and there is only a few card men in our town, there is enough to make a nice Local if they would get wise and get in line. I think that work will be pretty good here this summer if the company's do the work they are expecting to do, there will be some light and trolley work for sure and I would like to see them card jobs, but if we don't get some one to help us to build our Local up it won't be long till the Local will be one of the past, but there is a few of us that will stick to the ship till she goes down. One of our brothers was called to the Great beyond. Bro. Wm. McKinney came here from Baltimore, Md., and put his card in 263 last fall, and worked for the United Tel. & Tel. Co. as trouble man. He was sent to Mahanoy City, Pa., March 4, to do some trouble work and was on a 40-foot pole and done some work and was just starting down when it is supposed that his strap on his hook broke and he fell to the paved street below. Brother Roy Hutcheson and Manager Jos. F. Ogden, was at the bottom of the pole and picked him up, he was sent to the Fountain Spring Hospital, but lived only 24 hours. He was buried in Shamokin. He leaves a wife, but no children. He had no home, so he was at home any place that he worked. Billy as he was best known was always pleasant and had a good and kind word for everybody and at all times ready to help a Brother in any way.

Brother Walter J. Daniels left for Hattiesburg, Miss. to work for a new phone company in that place. Walter is a fine young man and if any of the Brothers meet him give him the glad hand for he is true blue. Brother Wm. P. Hall, our former R. S. is home from Butte City, Mont. He had a sad message of the death of his mother. Bro. Hall expects to return in a week or so. Well as this is Easter Sunday and a very fine one I hope till the next one we have, the Brotherhood will be increased to again its strength and every local is striving for better price and shorter hours will get them and now Mr. Editor I hope you will excuse me for taking so much space in our worthy WORKER. Wishing you all success I remain, Fraternally yours,

HARRY T. MORGAN.

Address: M. & M. Tel. Co., Mandata, Pa.

WHEREAS, We mourn the loss of him who, in life we held dear as a brother and friend, and while we can never more grasp his hand and see his pleasant smile, we humbly submit to Him who has called our brothers spirit to the life beyond the grave; therefore be it

Resolved, That the sudden removal of Brother Wm. McKinney from our midst leaves a vacancy and a shadow that will be deeply realized by all members of Local Union No. 263, I. B. E. W.; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of thirty days, and a copy of the resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local and a copy be sent to the family and a copy be sent to the ELECTRICAL WORKER for publication. Signed.

HARRY T. MORGAN,
ED. ROTH,
WALTER C. ROTH,
Committee.

Local Union No. 283.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few words from Local No. 283 for the purpose of informing the various members of the I. B. of conditions prevailing at the present time on the Pacific Coast. I am sorry to state that work of all kinds is practically at a stand still as the companies claim they can not secure material. The Gas & Electric company have laid off a great many men, the Traction company some and the Pacific Telephone company have reduced their force seventy-five per cent. Gang, that formerly worked 8 and 10 linemen are now reduced to 3 and 4 men—here in Oakland the Telephone companies have reduced their force in every department and they are doing scarcely any construction work at all. I have talked with some of the local officials but they can not give any information as to how long these conditions will last. The Home Telephone Co.

have about completed their plant in Oakland; as the exchange was turned over to the local company last week, they expect to be giving service in a short time. Now brothers, owing to the condition of work here this is a poor place to land in as living expenses are still away up, but just as soon as the work opens up I will be pleased to let you know through the WORKER.

Local No. 6 is still out and they are having a difficult strike as they are fighting both the contractors and P. H. McCarthy, President of the Building Trades Council, still at that I expect to see No. 6 come out on top in a short time, as the inside work is in bad shape in San Francisco, for McCarthy with his scab organization cannot deliver the goods. Brother M. J. Sullivan, G.V.P., is in charge of this strike and he certainly is putting up a good clean fight and he deserves the praise and assistance of all I. B. E. W. members.

I am pleased to state that No. 283 is going along nicely and increasing its members at each meeting. Our meetings are well attended and the members take great interest in the meetings.

Mr. Editor, I will thank you if you will kindly publish this letter in the May issue and wishing all locals every success, I remain, Fraternally yours,

HUGH MURRIN.

Local Union No. 296.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well brothers, I am on the job again this month. Local 296 is getting along as fine as silk, we took in three new brothers last meeting night and we got our eye on a couple more. Well brothers, work is not very brisk around here, the light company is doing some new work and expect to put another gang on so that will give work to a few good card men. The telephone company is not doing any work this spring. Well brothers, news is slack around here this month so I guess I will open the switch. Best wishes to all Local unions. Fraternally yours,

B. SMITH.
Press Secretary.

Local Union No. 335.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I am sorry to report to you that two of our members have lost their due books the past week.

I am sending you their names and number of cards. So you may have them published in the WORKER. I am issuing some more, marked duplicate across the inside of the book.

Fred Jinkins, Card No. 87920, of No. 335, Springfield, Mo., lost in city.

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

Ed. Burrell, Card No. 87906, of No. 335, Springfield, Mo., lost or stolen in Tulsa, I. Ty.

There were also valuable papers with each one of these. Mr. Burrell's address is Okmulgee, Ind. Ty., care of J. A. Heran, Bozark Hotel.

We are anxiously waiting for news of a settlement of the Tel. strike.

Fraternally yours,
CHAS. G. CRISWELL.

Local Union No. 345.**EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:**

In the absence of Brother McKinnon, our press secretary, the local having me pressed into service, I wish all the boys who were here during the winter and fall to know just how everything is working in Mobile. The boys with the Light company ask for \$3.00 and nine hours and 2 hours off on Saturday afternoon. As I understand it they will continue at \$2.70 per 9 hours, and 2 hours off on Saturday, which the majority of the boys working for the light company accepted, as a compromise for their demands having made a closed shop of it. Will it be a winning in the long run, let us hope so.

I would like to have all the boys know of the passing away of one of Mobile's landmarks, Brother J. V. Childress, or "Slim" as he was so well known by, died on January 10, and was followed to his last resting place by 60 good fellow workmen upon the following day.

Bro. Geo. P. Woods, or "Smoky" left the next night afterwards on a passenger train for Texas, he got as far as Scranton, Miss., where they stopped for water, the nigger fireman came back, got Smoky off then, the engine backed up to take water, Smoky got off and fell under the tender, and got his leg cut off about 6 inches below the knee, he is now in the hospital here yet, maybe able to get out in a couple of weeks. There is a great many boys throughout the country who know Smoky and know him well, should feel so disposed to send a start to that wooden leg, let them send it to Geo. P. Woods, in care of Uncle Ben. I am sure it will be welcomed with many thanks. Remember boys we can place the dead away to their last resting place and then say our duty is complete, but in a case of this brothers, we must provide him a means of making his living, so all join in and we will have him on his way. Brothers Frank (Curly) Edleman and Eddie Clark of Pensacola, Florida fame do begin to hike up the line on Saturday, Frank says he cannot buy an Easter bonnet because Clark is not sure to sleep by it, it might make too much noise! But then you can not always sometimes tell. Should this have time to catch Harry Folans eyes there is some of us whom would like to have a letter from him, not a postal card, do you mind.

Rowland Reed is back from an Electrical tour in Texas, also Brother Dill from the same place. Brother Saunders and Brother Frank Nettles had a 2 weeks rest in St. Louis, Mo., and other points. But have come back to join us again.

To Brother Dutch Echert, Mr. George Richie says he thinks of you every time he smokes your little pipe, but is sorry you did not get the beer, it was he says because you could not catch a bottle on the fly, and how do you manage to catch a train?

Our local last night at the special meeting voted a vote of thanks for the part he took in settling the strike or demand committee of the Light Co's. men. Bro. Doc Harper, of Birmingham, who came down at a request of the Local. Most every one has gone and when the paint runs out there will be more to follow. With best wishes to all brothers.

Yours fraternally,
P. D. MARKELL.
Press Sec. (Pro Tem.)

Local Union No. 348.**EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:**

Local Union No. 348 meets every Monday at 8:30 sharp in Labor hall, 8th avenue, East, Chas. Birchardt, Rec. Sec., G. W. Phillips, Fin. Sec.

Well it is so long since you have heard anything from 348 of Calgary that you may think that we are out of existence, but we aint all the same. We have had a little trouble lately. Ex-Financial Secretary thought he needed our funds worse than we did, perhaps he did, but a little matter like that don't bother us a little bit, we are just as strong and we have pretty near everybody in town and that's what we need. If you think you have space for a little from a local from the North pole, or at least about a mile and a half from it, why please insert this in the WORKER: G. W. Phillips, Financial Secretary, 348 Galgany Alberta. Best wishes to the Brotherhood.

Yours fraternally,
G. W. PHILLIPS.

Local Union No. 348.**EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:**

I hope you will allow a small space in the "WORKER" for this letter, as it has been a long time since you have heard from us.

I was elected Press Secretary a few meetings ago and have also neglected to write up anything, but now being started I will do the best to all of my ability.

We are young yet, but have prospered good in the last year. We have a membership of 53, and before long we expect to nearly double it. We had a smoker about a month ago, which was a great success.

The work in this town is going to boom this summer as the town is growing fast and some talk of building a street railway.

What the Local Union wants to get in this town is an eight hour schedule and more money and we will be O. K., as we work a ten hour day on the Bell and nine on the Light which is altogether too much.

We are going to have an open meeting on the 15th inst for the benefit of the boys that are working on the long distance out of here and are now in town for a few days, and would like to get every one of the boys interested in the "Union."

We meet every Monday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the Barber Block on 8th ave., East. Hoping every Local Union is progressing in the right way, I remain,

Yours sincerely,
LISLE SILVER.

Local Union No. 370.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Brothers, I don't think that any letter has ever appeared in the WORKER from Local Union No. 370. We have elected press agents but they don't press very much, but we are here to stay and have been doing some big stunts in getting new members during the last year and a half. We are up against a serious proposition now as the Sunset or Pacific Telephone company have layed off all men except a few installers and some trouble shooters; the Home company are not doing anything so there are lots of idle men here and traveling brothers should stay away from the coast. W. E. Kennedy is circulating around here as organizer, he always wears a persuasive smile and is doing good work as usual for the brotherhood. To any of the old members of 370 who are away and see this, you can know that we are still doing business and have high jinks every Friday night after the 7th of each month, or to be more plain we have open meeting and smoker every month and we make a special effort to get the nons there and then to get them in line for the obligation ceremony.

Fraternally yours,
W. C. W.

Local Union No. 427.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

A timely editorial came to my notice in the April issue of our Journal on the subject of "Pernicious Legislation." The able editor of our official organ pointed out in an effective and decidedly convincing manner the many vicious clauses contained in a Senate Bill now before the Illinois Legislature for consideration.

It is not my object in this letter to dwell upon the pernicious character of the

Bell itself, as Brother Collin's analysis of it leaves nothing unsaid. The subject with which I wish to deal is the pernicious manner in which this pernicious legislation has been acted upon by members of our own organization, to whose interests it is obviously detrimental in the extreme. I shall attempt to narrate as briefly and clearly as possible the whole history of the bill, in order to illustrate fully the action taken by these "brothers."

The bill originally introduced was numbered 275, was presented by Senator Landee, at the instigation the Senator avers, of a Mr. Manor of Rock Island, Ill. The latter gentleman by the way is chiefly conspicuous in his locality for this partiality toward the clancered species of the genus homo.

Mr. Juul of Chicago was to have introduced the measure in the senate, but owing to the contractor's association being misinformed on the subject of Mr. Juul's status in the Legislature, he being a Senator, they imagining him to be a member of the House, they were unable to introduce the bill into the lower house at that time.

It was apparently the object of the perpetrators of this bill to rush it through the legislature and have it enacted into law before any of the future victims of the measure should become aware of its existence.

Local Union No. 134 seems to have been the first body to become alive to the situation. It being evident to them that the passage of such an act would prove disastrous to their own as well as to any other organization of electrical workmen, they immediately dispatched a delegate to this city to look over the ground and exert himself to prevent the passage of the bill.

The delegate together with Brother Collins, Sullivan and myself, attended a meeting of the judiciary committee. Our audience before this committee had been engineered with great difficulty by Dr. Mark Gier, the afore mentioned delegate from No. 134 to whom too much credit cannot be given for his earnest and strenuous endeavor in combatting the bill. Brother Collins in an able manner, though under trying conditions, presented our side of the story, being frequently interrupted in the course of his argument by irrelevant and inconsequential questions drawled at him by members of the committee. However, before leaving we seemed to have the situation pretty well in hand.

The contractors appeared before the committee the following day, but Brother Collins' eloquence had borne fruit and their protestations and affirmatives had little effect.

The bill was laid over and we were to be notified at what date it would be up for reconsideration. It was intimated to

us that that date would in all probability never arrive, and that the bill was to all intents and purposes killed. Dr. Gier returned to Chicago, intending to return if the notorious baby bobbed its head up again. He was never permitted to do so, however, as other interests had been at work in his organization, which caused that organization to completely reverse its action. I am now going to bring to your notice one of the most perfidious and treacherous acts that could possibly be perpetrated by a body of men in an organization upon that organization at large. Local Union 134 had, it appears, had a movement on foot toward securing an increase from \$4.50 to \$5.00 per day in the near future. You can imagine how much the contractors of Chicago thought of their bill, when they offered to accede to all the demands of 134. If 134 would withdraw its opposition to that bill, No. 134 had sought legal advice on the bill, and their counsel had instructed them, for their own preservation, to fight the bill at all hazards. It seems however that a paltry 50 cents was sufficient inducement for that admirable body.

Is their evidence of any qualms of conscience on the part of No. 134.

No indeed, we shall hear them in the future as we have in the past, blowing their horns of self-satisfaction and self-recommendation, proclaiming their selfish interests loudly enough to awake the soul of old Ramesis reposing in the air-proof cheops.

My vocabulary fails me when I seek to find words fittingly condemnatory in repudiating such actions.

There is no doubt that this action of No. 134 materially helped toward the passage of this bill.

Much hard work will be necessary in bringing about the defeat of this bill under present circumstances. Too much credit cannot be given Brother Collins and Sullivan for the lively interest they have taken and efficient work they have done in this matter. Why is it that D. C. fails to have its organizer or some capable man on the ground at this time. Surely this is a matter of sufficient importance for that body to take under consideration.

I should suggest that all Local Unions send a letter to their respective representatives in the house or senate protesting against the enactment of this pernicious bill. Do all you can to defeat it. Meanwhile rest assured all pressure possible will be brought to bear to insure its death by the Grand Office and Local Union No. 427. Fraternally yours,

O. F. DAVENPORT.

Local Union No. 452.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As Local No. 462 has just elected me Press Secretary, will endeavor to write a short letter. 452 is a new local and our membership is small, but is steadily increasing and is made up of men who are fearless in the discharge of their duties as members and who stand ready at any and all times to do anything they are called upon to do that would further the interests of the local and the brotherhood.

With a body of men of this calibre all working for the same cause, I see no reason why in a short time this should not be one of the strongest locals in the South.

Work here at present is on the wane, quite a number of boys having taken out cards and have left for the North and West. Would advise all wiremen to stay away from Pensacola at present as we have a little grievance with the Bosses. Will advise later through the Journal when trouble is adjusted. With best wishes to all members of the brotherhood, I beg to remain,

Fraternally yours,

WALLACE W. WORRELL.

President and Press Secretary, L. 452.

Local Union No. 458.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it has been a long time since this Local has had a letter in the worker, I thought I would write a few lines and let the brothers know how everything is here. There is going to be lots of work here this summer. The Street Car Co. is going to build more car lines and also build a new powerhouse, and there will be lots of inside work also, as there is building going up all over town.

We have a membership of about 20, but there is only half a dozen ever show up at each meeting, which makes it pretty bad to get through with our business. The only time we have a good showing is when we have a big feed and then they all come.

The only way I can think of to make them attend meetings is to have an infernal machine fastened to each one, timed to go off at 8 o'clock each Friday night, with the keys up to the Local room.

Well I guess this is all I dare write now, for I fear when the brothers down here see this I am liable to get damaged.

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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Hoping to see this in the next WORKER,
I remain, yours fraternally,

KINNY.
Sec. Local No. 458.

This is one of our big feeds:

Menu.

Kilowatts a la Meter

Soup

Puree of Rubber covered Gibliots
Consomme Socket Bushings

Fish

Boiled Plug Cut-outs Fried Push Buttons
Relishes

Porcelain Knobs Keyless Sockets
Salted Amperes Pickled Rosetts

Incandescent Salad

Entries

Fried Trolley Pole

Knife Switches a la Meringo

Dry Battery Sause

Vegetables

Wire Lamp Guards Outlet Boxes
Insulating Joints

Rubber Tape Wood Moulding
Roasts

Young Transformers Stuffed

Stuffed Circuit Breakers

Roast Solder With Paste

Fricassed Cross Arms

Desert

Arc Lamp Pudding Glass Insulators
Dried Current Pie

Carbon Brushes — Locknuts — Buzzers—
Conduit Pie—Hylo Pudding

Beverages

Alternating Currents extra old
Transformer Oil Curve Grease

P. and B. Points

Local Union No. 463.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 463 is still doing thriving business in regards to getting new members.

Our business agent is working hard getting the boys in—they are coming pretty fast. At every meeting there is always a long chain of new members to be initiated. Let them all come they are all welcome. "Every little bit Helps!"

Our blackboard lectures is drawing a pretty large crowd, but there is always a gang of them that never come around. If each brother would take an interest in the meetings, changes for the better would be noticeable very soon. Don't expect us few to do the work for all. The work here is fair, and the outlook is good for some time to come.

Yours fraternally,
J. LUSIGNAN.

Local Union No. 463.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

You have never heard from Local 463 before in this ELECTRICAL WORKER, but I have been chosen to throw the ink for

this bunch Will say in the beginning, that we a small but lively baby in the union and although we are just beginning to cut our wisdom teeth I think you will find us as the months roll by a pretty healthy youngster.

We had a pleasant and profitable visit from Brother James J. Reid a short time ago, and if there are any locals in his district that have not had the pleasure of meeting him they had better get busy.

He is one of those fellows who as the old lady says, "Kinder liven things up." Come again Brother Reid.

Having noticed in the WORKER that in Local Union Directory that you have sign (b) for 463, which should be changed to (a) mixed local, please correct this mistake.

At our last meeting motion was made that we were to write to head office to send us an organizer for Montreal and Eastern Canada, as we want one badly.

At our last election: Bro. H. E. Reynolds, President; Bro. J. W. Sullivan, Vice-President; Bro. J. Lusigman, Rec. and Press Secretary; Bro. H. C. Rolfe, Financial Secretary; Bro. W. Sweet, Foreman; Bro. Laviolette, Business Agent.

When Mr. James J. Reid, the first Grand Vice-President was here last month, he advised us that a large city like Montreal, it would be wise for us to have a business agent, so at the next meeting, we nominated Bro. Flynn and Bro. Laviolette. Bro. Laviolette was elected by a very close majority of 4.

Since our business agent is on the road he has done very good for our local, he has brought at least fifteen members each meeting. We all hope that he brings them all in.

Now Brother Collins don't put this in the waste basket, but put it in the WORKER as 463 has never had a letter in the ELECTRICAL WORKER.

Yours fraternally,
JULES LUSIGNAN.

Montreal, March 29, 1907.

Local Union No. 484.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As our Local has not yet appeared in your "Valuable Worker" and being appointed Press Secretary at our last meeting I will try and convince you that we are still alive in Waterbury, Ct.

We initiated two honorable members at our last meeting. Namely the one week old son of our Worthy President, C. K. Ahearn and four week old son of our worthy brother, John Shea. We are having good success at present as the boys are bringing in five and six every meeting.

We gave a smoker in February, which was a decided success and expect to

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

give another in April to celebrate the first anniversary of our local.

We have had hard striving in Waterbury on account of recent labor troubles, but the boys hung together and worked hard and we are now traveling along very successfully. Thanks to the efforts of our President and charter members worked very hard in the past and are still after the slow ones. Thanking you in advance for the space we have occupied, I remain

Fraternally yours,
Jos. D. HARTNETT.

Local Union No. 497.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Will try once more to bring Local Union No. 497 to the memory of the Electrical world. We are still in existence and doing business at the same old stand, while our local does not grow in members it grows in strength, we have good delegates to District Council, and brothers that will most certainly fight for the good of the union. We elected a Vice-President to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Turcy; the new Vice-President is Bro. Walter Forbs, a good true blue. Now we are going to have a picnic on July 20th with contests and games, there will be a climbing contest; first prize, \$15.00; second prize, \$10.00; third prize, \$5.00; fourth prize, pair of climbers. This contest is confined to members of the I. B. E. W. and they must show a good card before they are allowed to climb. Entrance fee one (\$1.00) dollar, any one wishing to enter can do so by sending their name with the entrance fee to D. Sullivan, 20 Cartleton ave., Thompsonville, S. I., N. Y., but in no case will they be entered without the fee. There will be other games besides, such as the three legged race, and a one hundred yard dash, and others, hope that all good brotherhood men in this vicinity will try these contests, some of the latter games are open to all. Well there is plenty of work in this vicinity at present and it looks as if there will be for some time to come. Hoping you will find room in the WORKER for this I still remain,

Yours fraternally,

W. WATSON.

Station Island, N. Y., April 21, 1907.

Local Union No. 501.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Between hail, rain, snow and sunshine I will try and say a few words while the sun is shining once again. The members are all hustling as never before and the outlook in this vicinity is getting better every day, and when you think of it we are not a year in the field, yet and at present we are supporting two delegates. On Saturday, March 30 there was a dele-

gate elected by the Building Trades Alliance of Mount Vernon in which we are affiliated and to hear some of the reports he sends in is wonderful and if ever two delegates were doing their work it is our two with very large fields to cover they certainly shine. I had a pleasant sojourn of four weeks at the Power House here and of all the wind jammers I ever run across, some of them are the limit, preaching brotherly love one minute and the next running down some member with the foulst of language, even if some brother make mistakes and goes wrong, now and then, the cause can be laid to no one except to the above, we are all human beings, but to hear them jammering it is certainly disgusting, there had ought to be a club formed, called say Booster club, in all unions where by all members would be obliged to boost and never run down. The work on the Power House is progressing rapidly and it will certainly be a monument to skilled labor when it is finished, we are at present working hard on our agreement with every prospect of it being put through. We were given permission to have our charter changed to read Yonkers Mount Vernon and Vicinity at the last District Council meeting, which no doubt will mean very much to us in the future. We had a social meeting here on the 18th, given to us by those whom we patronized in giving our reception on March 1st, some of the boys enjoyed it very much. I will now close and hope you will find space for this report, I will say goodby till next month.

Yours fraternally,
FRANCIS F. CROWLEY.

Local Union No. 505.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I wish to state that I have been elected Press Secretary of Local No. 505, and although I am not much on the corresponding line I will endeavor to make good to the best of my ability, as I appreciate the honor conferred on me by the boys inasmuch, and I am almost a total stranger to them all.

The brothers of 505 are about to enjoy what we believe will be a season of prosperity as work is booming in this section of the country and all but two or three of the boys are working.

What is most important of all is the fact that an agreement went into effect on April 1st giving the journeymen \$3.75 per day and helpers \$2.20 per day.

This a number 1 considering that it is the first attempt of 505 to secure an agreement and as it went through without any great resistance the boys are highly elated.

The agreement also gives us half Saturday off from the second Saturday in May until September.

I am sorry to say that as in most all organizations No. 505 has a member who is inclined to be a little of the black sheep variety, but as we are giving long odds and taking chances that the brother will fall into line before the next meeting and set himself right we will say very little on the subject at this time.

As this is about all the news that I can give at the present time I will terminate with best wishes from all brothers of 505 to all brothers of the I. B. E. W. throughout the universe.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN J. HILL.

"QUEER ENGLISH."

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox should be oxen, not oxes.
Then one fowl is goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of mouse should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse of a whole nest of mice,
But the plural of house is houses, not hice.
If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
The cow in the plural may be cows or kine,
But the plural of vow is vows, not vine.
And if I speak of a fool, and you show me your feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pan be called beat?
If one is a tooth and a whole lot are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?
If the singulars this and the plural is these,
Should the plural of kiss be nicknamed keese.
Then one may be that and thee would be those,
Yet hat in a plural would never be hose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But, though we say mother we never say methren.
Then masculine pronouns are he, his or him,
But imagine the feminine, she, shis or shism.
To the English I think you all will agree,
Is the most wonderful language you ever did see.

Fraternally yours,

FRANCIS F. CROWLEY.

Local Union No. 519.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I will communicate with our brotherhood through the WORKER. I trust the following will be of interest to all broth-

ers who know of our existence and, as I hope and trust, have the welfare of our future success at heart.

To begin with prospects at present do not look very favorable for this summer. The Kinloch Tel. Co. are doing away with all the employees they can, and what places are to be filled, will be by the very cheapest help they can find, and it seems the country here abouts is over run with. Well, I can not call them men, but there are those who cannot under any consideration think of their own and their families welfare enough to ask for a decent living for their labors.

I am sorry to state that even in our organization their are many such ones and they are ever ready to give a fellow worker and brother the ragged end of the string, and when they are down and out, there are those who say he is no good, and who talk about an unfortunate, unemployed brother in such a way that it makes even the devil ashamed of his subjects. Brothers, I am speaking of facts for I myself have often heard just such talk and remarks, and it does not stop at that alone, they go so far as to talk even of the loved one in our homes, they do not even have enough self respect for themselves and their own home to keep their head closed to such unbrotherly feelings. Well my dear brothers, we all know how and what is to try keeping a local on its feet in such a wee small place as this. Not long ago our union appointed a committee to learn if possible what the prospects would be for an agreement with the Kinloch Tel. Co., and of course said company began to get scared, nothing to be alarmed at I am sure. In the meantime there was but one of the committee of three who would go ahead with the duties, the other two could not meet, perhaps it would have caused the loss of a much desired six bit job; this member of said committee had a very pleasant interview and was much encouraged, but as at the present the great large and soulless Tel. Co. is not as yet got over their soreness of having to come across to as good as bunch of brothers of our craft as was ever bounded together. The company did not see their way clear to stand by us. Well of course we learning how conditions were did not get up any agreement, but decided to remain under present working conditions, \$2.50 per 9 hour day. Since that time, well, it is a case of root hog or die, and brothers, right now, I want to state to all concerned that the only way to keep even with the big corporations is to do so by either the whole organization or by each district council, and in that way we can either win a glorious victory or cause them to loose heavily. Brothers, here is a proposition, as we stand we are nothing more than slaves of frenzied finance, of course there

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

are many of us who hope to some day win a place of standing, well in the eyes of the heartless corporations, and who will gain these points by any and all ways and means. Now as we stand we have all to gain and nothing to lose, for live we must and will do, regardless of whether we are at play or at work.

What is the future, stop and consider, as I see it, labor and capital are booked to fight it out and brothers it can be done without blood shed. Now, I cannot take all the space of our journal, and perhaps none at all, so brothers I am going to ask any and all to write me a line, express your views and opinions, it may be of much and beneficial interest to you, I, and all of the great and large body of working people. Can you give me that much of your time and consideration and perhaps the cost of it all will only be a few cents. With the interest of the brotherhood at heart and the welfare of the working people, I remain,

Yours truly,

E. A. KURTZ.

Paris, Ill., 401 Elm street.

Local Union No. 533.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Work is scarce here at present, both outside and inside.

The Pioneer Telephone have cut down their force. The Street Ry. Co. have commenced the overhead work, and they seem to have about all the men they can use. I am happy to say you must have the "Green goods" or you can't work for them, which cannot be said of the other companies doing work here. While we cannot offer any brothers encouragement to come here for work, we are always glad to see visiting brothers, but are not at home unless they have the cards. We have not succeeded in all we have undertaken, but are still hopeful. Next Saturday night will be the first meeting of delegates for our labor congress or central body. Well we have over thirty lights on our circuit—how is that for a new local. We are always glad to receive the WORKER, but once in a while we see a familiar name that makes us homesick some. Come over Newton (Shorty) and lets go fishing.

W. D. SPENCER.

Local Union No. 537.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Having been duly elected Press Secretary of Cable Splicers Local No. 537 it becomes my pleasant duty to give some alarm at the door of the editorial rooms that will attract the attention of the editor in order to gain admission into the columns of the WORKER for our little local.

On February 2d we had what can truthfully be termed a jolly good time,

for on that eventful evening we were brought into existence, having been duly instituted with eleven charter members.

The regular order of business having been disposed of we proceeded to partake of refreshments which consisted of ham and cheese sandwiches, pickles, salad and a host of other things I cannot remember, including cigars and soft drinks and that liquid so near and dear to most of us which comes in bottles and kegs.

The mental food consisted of speeches by the worthy G.V.P. Brother M. J. Sullivan and some of the members.

The officers for the present term are: President, Bro. Elmore; Vice-President, Bro. Ferry; Financial Secretary, Bro. Stowe; Recording Secretary, Bro. Eldridge; Treasurer, Bro. Sorensen; Forman, Gro. Green; Inspectors, Brothers Moyer and Powell; Trustees, Brothers Allison, Gillette and Martin.

Our regular weekly meetings are always well attended. We are taking in new members most every meeting night so that our books now show a membership of about fifty-five.

The brothers are all working together in conjunction with District Council for the best interests of the Local and the Brotherhood. The local extends a hearty welcome and well wishes for each and every member in the I. B. E. W.

GEORGE SORENSEN.

Local Union No. 541.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As we have been organized for sometime now its probably up to me to write you. We have practically every good man in the city in our trade in the local now and expect to get the balance (only 4) of them very soon, as you know we were organized before with the Metal Polishers and Brass Workers, but it has not been to the benefit of any of the members, therefore we got together and sent a committee to call on the Electrical Workers, with the result as you know. A charter in the I. B. E. W. We are only 14 members at present, but the spirit that exists among them is truely something wonderful. Hope the five will last, and I think it will. Now the thing I want to get at is this, from the time we left the Metal Polishers we have been hounded by the cry of deserter, traitors, etc., from the handfull of remains of the Metal Polishers.

At the first meeting of the Trades Council our delegate was not seated on an objection from the M. P. This was left in the hands of the grievance committee, which found that the only thing the M. P. had against us was that the Electrical Workers did not have jurisdiction over chandelier work. The commit-

tee reported in our favor and the delegate was seated. Now at last nights meeting another rumpus was started by the same crowd, that our delegate should be thrown out of the Council. This came very near going through, but was nipped in the bud by an amendment postponing until some later time when the Council would have the matter looked upon. One of the things that was mentioned was that we would be compelled to go back to the M. P. In this work he was nobly assisted by the colleagues from the Metal Trades Council, a council that I personally helped to organize in Memphis, and of which a chandelier man was the first president. Now I don't want you to think that we are all in corner hiding, but it makes it disagreeable to constantly have to be on the edge and my idea in writing you is to get all the information you can give us. We have been nobly assisted by Bro. Flanagan and he is sticking right with us and we will stick to the bunch. You can count on that. Would you advise me to write to the A. F. of L? However it can run on until they tire of it for we don't pay much attention to it and I don't think it matters much if they should succeed in throwing

our delegate out of the Council for a short time. Now I will close my long and probably tiresome letter with one more request that you send me the names and addresses of 4 or 5 branch locals as we would like to hear from them in regards to working agreements existing between fixture hangers and wiremen. Thanking you for an early reply. I am

Yours fraternally,

E. H. GANDEEN.

4556 32d ave, South, Local 541.

Local Union No. 544.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

President, Jas. Malone; Vice-President, Pat. McAlpine; Financial Secretary, J. W. Hill; Recording Secretary, Farrell Scarlett; First Inspector, Geo. Armstrong; Second Inspector, H. Shackleton; Foreman, Robt. Berder.

We have one of the best union towns, and as we are out for business, are going to keep the ball rolling.

Fraternally yours,

FARRELL SCARLETT.

STATE COUNCIL.

Delegates called to order at 11 a. m., as follows:

No. 96, Worcester, Strout and Miller.

No. 103, Bradford and Roberts.

No. 104, Birmingham, Murphy and Dionne.

No. 224, New Bedford, T. A. Loftus.

No. 503, Boston, F. H. Davidmyer.

Discussed the question of organizing until 12:30 and adjourned till 1:30. The object of the State Council as set forth was:

1st—A thorough organization of the State.

2d—A uniform wage.

3d—A plan of information whereby members out of work may be informed of vacancies in any part of the State.

To meet at least once in two months to discuss trade conditions and such other matters as may come up.

And to keep at it until every man working at the trade is a member of the Brotherhood.

The unseating from the Building Trades Section of the C. L. U. of Boston of Local No. 503 (Fixture Hangers) was brought up and discussed. Resolution offered by Bradford and Davidmyer that we communicate with First Vice President Reed and ask for his assistance in the matter was adopted. Motion made that we send a copy to Vice President Reed and one to the N. E. D. C. so voted.

Motion by Strout that the proposed bill

from F. O. Plummer for the licensing of inspectors of wire's be read and referred to the N. E. D. C.

Motion by Davidmyer that the minutes of this meeting be printed in the WORKER.

Motion by Strout that the election of officers be postponed until next meeting.

Motion by Murphy that all Locals as far as possible be visited and all Locals be notified of the next meeting and asked to send delegates.

Birmingham, Miller, Strout, Davidmyer, Dionne and Loftus to attend to the matter.

The old per capita of one per cent per month for the running expenses of the Council was re-adopted.

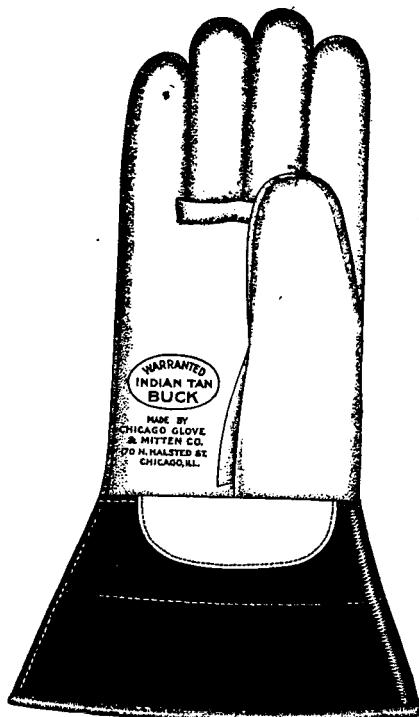
Motion that we endorse the strike of No. 258 of Providence, R. I., and to keep all linemen away during trouble was carried.

Motion that the five Locals of Boston try and form a greater Boston Council of Electrical Workers.

Motion by Miller that we adjourn until the 4th Sunday in May, at 10 o'clock at Well's Memorial Building, 987 Washington street, Boston, Mass.

The next meeting of the New England District Council will be the 13th and 14th of July, Saturday and Sunday, at Boston.

S. A. Strout, Secretary,
419 Main st., Worcester, Mass.
Boston, April 14th, 1907.



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Solid Gold Emblematic Buttons, ea	1 00	Warrant Book for R. S.	25
Heavy Rolled-Gold Emblematic Buttons, each	50	Financial Secretary's Ledger, 200 pages	1 50
Constitutions, per 100	5 00	Financial Secretary's Ledger, 400 pages	2 50
Membership Cards, per 100	1 00	Minute Book for R. S.	75
Traveling Cards, per dozen	50	Day Book	50
Withdrawal Cards, per dozen	50	Roll Call Book	50
Application Blanks, per 100	50		
Extra Rituals, each	25		
Blank Bonds, each	10		
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Official Notice of Arrears, per 100	50		
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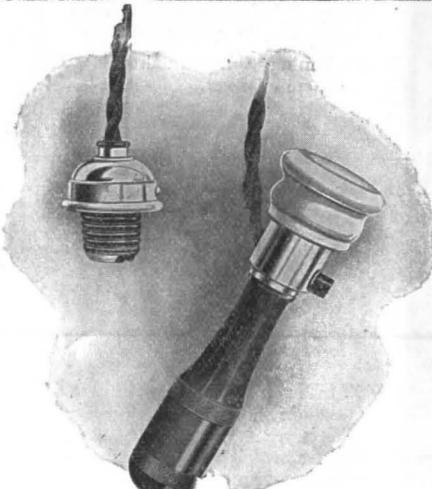


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"Yankee" Spiral-Ratchet Screw Driver

No. 35. Right and Left Hand and Rigid



In construction it is the same as the No. 30 and 31, but smaller and for driving small screws only.

It is intended for electrical workers, cabinet makers, carpenters and mechanics having a large number of small screws to drive, and where a lighter weight tool will be much more sensitive and convenient than the standard patterns, or No. 30.

It is small enough to be conveniently carried in the pocket, measuring 7 in. long when closed (without bit) and weighing complete less than 7 ounces.

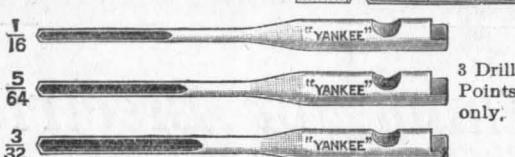
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Drill Points

$\frac{1}{16}$, $\frac{5}{64}$ and $\frac{3}{32}$ as shown, also



Countersink can be furnished to fit
No. 34 Yankee Spiral-Ratchet
Screw Driver.



It drives screws in or out, ratchets in or out, and is arranged to hold rigid when closed or extended.

The bits are straight, so they can be used to drive screws through holes in insulators, etc., where the flattened blades will pass through holes.

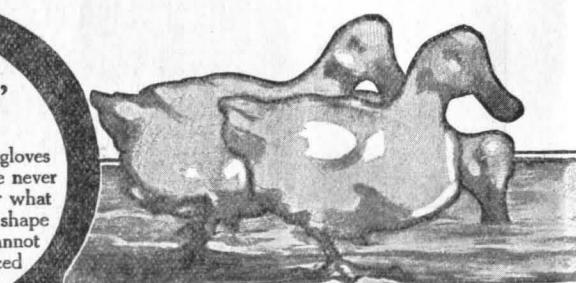
The great convenience of this new driver in its smaller size and lesser weight, will command and make it a desirable tool even to those who already have the No. 30. The length of tool with bit in chuck is $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. closed and $12\frac{1}{2}$ in. when extended.

Extra long bits projecting 4 in. beyond chuck, or 2 in. longer than regular bits, can be furnished in these widths.

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Write for our handsome booklet, in colors, so as to learn just
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